

Church of St. Thomas More

A Roman Catholic Parish in the Diocese of San Diego

1450 South Melrose Drive
Oceanside, CA 92056
760.758.4100 Phone • 760.758.4165 Fax
www.stmoside.org • parishoffice@stmoside.org



Spirituality † Tradition † Community

Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor
Deacon Thomas A. Goeltz
Rev. Thomas W. Thompson, Pastoral Associate
(858-945-2251) Hospital Chaplain at
Scripps La Jolla, Scripps Green, & UCSD Thornton

Office Hours: Monday-Friday
8:30am-12:00 noon and 12:30-4:00pm

Mass Schedule
Saturday at 5:00pm
Sunday at 8:30am and 10:30am
Tuesday-Friday at 8:15am
First Monday of the Month at 7:00pm

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

Reconciliation (Confession)
Saturday, 4:00-4:30pm

January 13, 2008 • The Baptism of the Lord



Welcome
Fr. Michael Jacques
from St. Peter Claver, New Orleans

What's Inside

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR
CHRISTIAN UNITY 2008

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*Inserts: New Orleans Envelope; Knights of Columbus Breakfast;
Spirited Seniors Flyer*

Pastor's Column

Rev. Michael Ratajczak
michaellr@stmoside.org
758-4100 x100

Gratitude and Intentionality

As we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, we close out the Christmas Season. We now look forward to all the future celebrations of the Mysteries of our Faith in this coming Church Year.

It is with a heart full of gratitude that I continue to thank God for having the opportunity to celebrate the Advent/Christmas/Epiphany Seasons with you, the Church of St. Thomas More. This was my fourth Christmas with you as your Pastor!

This community is truly an "intentional" community. Everyone who is here truly wants to be here, and desires to enter into the celebration of the Mysteries of our Faith.

That "intentionality" is so evident in all that we do as a community—from active participation "in the pews," to those who serve in various liturgical ministries in the Eucharistic Celebrations, to those who are "in the background" helping to "prepare the space and the ritual" for our celebrations.

All this takes much effort and sacrifice on the part of many people. Schedules and agendas need to change or to be adjusted in

(Continued on page 3)

Calendar Highlights

Also check the parish website for complete calendar info:
www.stmoside.org, then select "Schedules and Calendars"

The Week Ahead

- Jan 12-13 Fr. Michael Jacques of St. Peter Claver, New Orleans, celebrates Masses; Potluck after 5:00pm Mass
- Jan 13 Liturgy of the Word for Children at the 8:30am Mass
- Jan 13 RE.A.CH classes, including high school
- Jan 14 Women's Guild Luncheon Meeting
- Jan 14 Women's Guild Fashion Show Planning Meeting
- Jan 20 Knights of Columbus Breakfast

The Month Ahead

- Jan 25-27 Teen Retreat: SIX30
- Jan 27 North County Catholic Widows and Widowers to attend 10:30am Mass
- Jan 27 RE.A.CH Classes, including high school
- Jan 28 Project Linus Coffee

The Year Ahead

- Feb 16-Mar 2 New Orleans Trip
- Feb 25 Lenten Day of Recollection sponsored by Women's Guild and Spirited Seniors
- Mar 9 Spirited Seniors travel to Rolling Hills Covenant Church to see "Pageant of Our Lord"
- Apr 6 STM Music Ministry Presents
Spring Sing—Ecumenical Celebration of Song
- Apr 24 Spirited Seniors Present *Music by Emmalyn*
- June 20 Ninth Annual Golf Classic/Evening Festivities
- July 21-25 *Power Lab* Vacation Bible School
- Nov 9 Towers of Faith Dinner

Questions? Contact Henny at 758-4100 x100

Prayer List for Deployed Military

As a faith community let us pray for all who serve our country in these troubled times. We pray especially for those connected to our parish who have been deployed:

Gy. Sgt. Barry Bull, USMC
Christian Caplinger, US Army
Nicholas B. Dawson
Capt. Gregory Day, USMC
Lance Corporal Brandon Doyle, USMC
MSGT Steve Gallegos, USMC
Sgt. Stephen Gerke, 101st Airborne
Lt. Col Robert T. Green, USAF
Cpl. Michael Guty, USMC
Lance Cpl. Ryan Keck, USMC
Cpl. Andrew G. Klidzejs, USMC
Med. Staff Sgt. Jana Alexander Madrid, USAF
Ronald Meyers, US Navy Search & Rescue
Lance Cpl. Steven A. Michaels, USMC
Spec. Jared Ratzlaff, US Army
SPC Robert Sullivan, US Army
Lt. Col. Robert C. Wright, USMC
Capt. Thomas Zeff, USAF

All-powerful God, be their constant companion and strength in every adversity. May they experience your faithful presence, gentle love and compassionate healing.

Contact the parish office at 758-4100 x102 to add a name.

Readings for the Week Ahead

Sunday Year A; Weekday Year II
 Readings online at www.usccb.org.

Sunday, January 13 (21)

The Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7

Psalm 29

Acts 10:34-38

Matthew 3:13-17

Monday, January 14 (305)

1 Samuel 1:1-8

Psalm 116:12-19

Mark 1:14-20

Tuesday, January 15 (306)

1 Samuel 1:9-20

1 Samuel 2:1,4-8 (Psalm)

Mark 1:21-28

Wednesday, January 16 (307)

1 Samuel 3:1-10,19-20

Psalm 40:2,5,7-10

Mark 1:29-39

Thursday, January 17 (308)

Anthony, abbot

1 Samuel 4:1-11

Psalm 44:10-11,14-15,24-25

Mark 1:40-45

Friday, January 18 (309)

1 Samuel 8:4-7,10-22a

Psalm 89:16-19

Mark 2:1-12

Saturday, January 19 (310)

1 Samuel 9:1-4,17-19;10:1

Psalm 21:2-7

Mark 2:13-17

Sunday, January 20 (64)

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 49:3,5-6

Psalm 40

1 Corinthians 1:1-3

John 1:29-34

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 12, 5:00pm
 Luther Crowell ☩

Sunday, January 13, 8:30am
 Frank Hannon ☩

Sunday, January 13, 10:30am
 Josephine Mase

Tuesday, January 15, 8:15am
 Joe Coccaro ☩

Wednesday, January 16, 8:15am
 Gilda Spiegel

Thursday, January 17, 8:15am
 Charles (Chuck) Wehner ☩

Friday, January 18, 8:15am
 Clay Provinse ☩

Saturday, January 19, 5:00 pm
 James Taefly ☩

Sunday, January 20, 8:30am
 Clay Provinse ☩

Sunday, January 20, 10:30am
 Anna Bushong ☩

Prayer List

Jay Ahmann
 Michael Ainis
 Charlotte Atkinson & family
 Patricia Barbour
 Carl Bechtold
 Edward Bednarz
 Cindra Bell
 Tom Belprez
 Janet Brown
 Carl Coleman
 James Coleman
 Judy Crane
 Celia Dagdayan
 Deborah Darsey
 Daphne Dunn
 James Echter
 Larry Fisk
 Edmund Fredette
 Andrew Frizell
 Bob Gardiner
 Cheryl Glenane
 Rick Gonzalez
 Anita Hage
 Deborah Hargis
 The Harker Family
 Bud Hazlett
 Barry Henwood
 Cynthia Horner
 Bernie & Ginny Jaeger
 The John Jones Family
 Sue Johnston
 Colleen Kaup
 The Kaup & Fisk Families
 Paul Kennedy
 Debbie Kinny
 Sr. Anne Kremenik
 Lillian Lachance
 Brandon LeBlanc
 Jackie Lynn
 James MacArthur
 Ken Mauro
 Baby Steven Florian Miller
 The Mitkevich Family
 Nancy Moore
 Judith Nichols
 R. Northrup
 Patricia O'Gaffney
 Ana Patterson
 Patti Phillips
 Helen Pingtella
 The Pokojni Family
 Anne Post
 Laurie Riggs
 The Robinson Family
 Sr. Loyola Romey
 Dorothy Rouse
 Lynne Rumpf
 Marilyn Sinkez
 Richard Vallandigham
 The Vasquez & Borba Families
 Doris Vessell
 Lee Vincent
 Vanessa Vitiello-Koble
 The Walsh Family
 Kevin Watson-Graff

Call 758-4100 x102 to add a name for four weeks.

(Pastor's Column continued from page 1)

order to make the Faith Community of St. Thomas More a priority. Please know that I am aware of that and know that, as your Pastor, you strengthen not only my ministry, but also, my Faith, as I see parishioners "being serious" about their Faith-life.

Your intentionality "feeds" me, as a pastor, as I, hopefully, feed you through leading you in the celebration of the Eucharist and breaking open the Word of God with you through my homilies. Of course, in all these efforts, we know that it is the Lord who feeds us. We are God's instruments.

Thank you to each and every one of you who helped to make the celebration of these liturgical seasons so prayerful and meaningful. Know that my heart is filled with gratitude.

I will not single out any persons or groups. When that is done, so often, someone is missed. You know who you are and what you have done. I know that the Lord is pleased!

As all of us make the necessary efforts and sacrifices in order to continue to live our community life here prayerfully and meaningfully, be mindful that we do so for the Lord, in order to give our God praise and thanksgiving.

At times, our efforts may be taken for granted or go unnoticed. We may be hurt or discouraged at times. Yes, it is nice to be recognized and acknowledged, but that is not the reason that we do what we do. All of our individual efforts come together in a community effort to give our Loving Creator praise and thanksgiving. When we keep that focus, our hurt and discouragement will dissipate.

One of the many challenges that we face as a community is to preserve this sense of intentionality. As we continue to grow in numbers, we must resolve to make greater efforts in the area of hospitality, welcome, and personal invitation into the life of the community. I know that we can and will do that!

As we renew our Baptismal Promises this weekend, we, once again, "intention" ourselves to follow the Lord Jesus and to be active members of His Body as the Church of St. Thomas More.

Fr. Mike

Sister Parish Pastor Exchange



This weekend, January 12-13, Fr. Michael Jacques, the Pastor of St. Peter Claver, our Sister Parish in New Orleans, is here at our Parish and celebrating all of the weekend Masses. At the same time, our Pastor, Fr. Mike, is visiting St. Peter Claver,



celebrating all of the Masses there, and carrying our best wishes for their continued recovery.

Can You Help Our Volunteers?

If you are able to contribute towards the building supplies fund for the team going to New Orleans to continue helping members of our Sister Parish, St. Peter Claver, rebuild their homes, please use the envelope attached to this week's bulletin. Thank you!

December 28, 2007

Dear Sister Maureen,

Enclosed are thank you notes for the St. Thomas More families who adopted our children this Christmas. Please share this with the parish. The picture is of a few of the parish religious education students who received gifts from you and their catechists.

The families were overwhelmed with the kindness and generosity of the St. Thomas More community in spite of your community's recent disaster.

The gifts and gift cards were greatly appreciated. They have helped families have a little something special this Christmas. Thanks for sharing the hope and joy of the Christ child with us. May God Bless you and Keep You.

We have the strength because you have the strength.

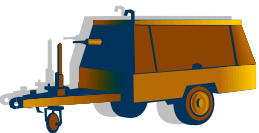
Love and Peace,

Mrs. Alena A. Boucree

Alena Boucree

Director of Religious Education

Equipment Needed for New Orleans



The house rebuilding volunteers traveling to New Orleans in February 2008 need one or more small, enclosed cargo trailers to transport and store their tools. Renting small cargo trailers from U-Haul costs about \$600 for the round trip. We would prefer putting that amount of money toward buying building supplies for the needy families in our Sister Parish, St. Peter Claver.

If you know someone who would be willing to loan their trailer for one month to the volunteers, please contact Dick Belprez at 295-1431. Contact Sr. Maureen if you are interested in joining the New Orleans rebuild effort.



Our Mission is to: worship God,

Mass Schedule: Saturday at 5:00pm; Sunday at 8:30am and 10:30am;
Tuesday-Friday at 8:15am; first Monday of the month at 7:00pm;
watch bulletin for holidays

Rite of Reconciliation (Confession): Saturday from 4:00-4:30pm
(or by appointment)

Eucharistic Adoration: Monday-Friday from 6:30am-7:30pm

Liturgical Ministry: Contact Douglas Lynn at 758-4100 x140

Choirs and Music Ministry: Contact Douglas Lynn at 758-4100 x140

Communion for the Homebound/Hospitalized: Contact Parish Office

Anointing of the Sick: Contact Parish Office

Matrimony: Contact Parish Office a minimum of 9 months in advance
For further information, call Rev. Michael Ratajczak at 758-4100 x100

teach and live the Gospel of Jesus Christ,

Inquiry into the Catholic Faith: First and third Thursday evenings

Religious Education for Youth & Children: Two times a month,
September-May, on Sundays

Religious Education for Adults: Various times, September-May

Liturgy of the Word for Children: 8:30 and 10:30am Masses

Little Rock Scripture Study: Weekly sessions, morning or evening

High School Youth Ministry: Monday evenings

Middle School Youth Ministry: Two Monday evenings per month

Preparation for the Sacraments:

Baptism (for infants): Begins with an appointment with the Pastor

Baptism (7-14 yrs.)/RCIA: One to two year process with children and
parents

Baptism (adults)/RCIA: One to two year process; weekly sessions

First Reconciliation: In home process begins in Level 1

First Communion: In home process begins after first reconciliation

Confirmation: Minimum two year process of preparation; begins in
high school

For further information, call Kathleen Bell at 758-4100 x110

and serve God's people in word and deed.

There are many groups who serve the parishioners
and provide outreach to the local community.

For further information, call Chris Smith at 758-4100 x120

Eucharistic Adoration

Monday-Friday • 6:30am-7:30pm,
Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Spend a few minutes (or more) with Jesus!

Exposition of the Eucharist on First Fridays
and one other day of each month.



Thanks to everyone who attended our first Exposition of 2008 on Friday, January 4. It appears that many of you took us up on our suggestion to make prayer before the Blessed Sacrament a New Year's resolution! We look forward to seeing all of you again (plus a few more friends) on our next day of Exposition which is Friday, January 25.

For more information, contact John O'Donnell at 598-6003.

Project Linus Coffee

Welcome to the Project Linus Coffee Monday, January 29, at 10:30am on the lower level of the Parish Center. You may turn in your blankets to be sized and labeled, learn more about Project Linus, and meet the other volunteers. Come help sick and abused children. For more information, please call Mary Coxon at 599-8760.

Flower Donation

We would like to gratefully acknowledge the contributions of:
The Hannon Family

whose generosity helped to defray the cost of flowers this weekend in our liturgical environment.

Thank You for Your Prayers for...

Major David E. Johnson, US Army
who has returned home safely.

In Memoriam



Please pray for the soul of Charles Robinson, who died on January 8. Please keep his wife, Joanne, and the family in your prayers.

*May his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

Women's Guild News

Luncheon Meeting—Monday, January 14, at 11:00am. We will be having a Chinese Auction. Please bring your gently used knick knacks such as Lenox, Lladro, or Hummel figurines, or take this opportunity to recycle your Christmas presents. Cost is \$7. Please RSVP by January 11 to Mary Vernacci at 599-4386 or Germaine Wilmott at 758-9949.

Fashion Show Committee Meeting—Monday, January 14, at 2:00pm in the lower level of the Parish Center. Any woman interested in attending is invited. The Fashion Show will be held April 26 at the Shadowridge Country Club. For more information, contact Valerie Thompson at 630-1703.

Game Day—Saturday, January 26—our third annual Game Day! All members of the parish and their friends are invited to a day of fun. Bring your friends and your game. Or come by yourself and join a group to play a fun game. We will have an opportunity drawing and door prizes. Hors d'oeuvres, lunch, and dessert will also be served. All for \$16 per person. Tickets on sale after all the Masses. For more information, or to make a reservation, call Wendy at 758-3226.

High School Youth Ministry

WWJD...What Would Jesus Do?

Monday, January 14, 7:00-8:30pm

For more information, call Gale at 726-7236



**Middle School
Youth Group**

Next Meeting

Monday, January 14, 7:00-8:30pm Upper Level

www.stmoside.org/ym

Any questions call

Ron or Louise Briseno 758-4100 x153

Liturgy & Music

Worship God

Douglas Lynn
Director of Music/Coordinator of Liturgical Ministries
douglasl@stmoside.org; 758-4100 x140

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2008

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The observance of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2008 is a special one as it marks the 100th anniversary of the inception of a prayer octave for the unity of Christians. Since its introduction as the Church Unity Octave from January 18-25, 1908, the cooperation between Anglican, Orthodox, Catholic, and Protestant churches, parishes, and communities in preparing for and celebrating the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity has become a familiar practice. This in itself is strong evidence for the effectiveness of prayer for unity. It gives us every right to speak about the history of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity as a history of success, and it is a reason for great joy and gratitude.

Prayer for Christian unity is a challenging prayer. It requires a change of heart among all of us. Ultimately it means that we will give up our personal and perhaps biased ways of seeing unity in favor of discerning what God wants for God's people. Together we are on the Spirit-led journey, calling us and our churches to recommit ourselves to pray and strive with our whole being for the unity and peace willed by God. In this 100th anniversary year, and every year, may all Christians take to heart the admonition "Pray without ceasing", making real our quest for Christian unity.

*The Rev. Mark S. Hanson, Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

*Bishop Janice Riggle Huie
President of the Council of Bishops
of The United Methodist Church*

*The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori
Presiding Bishop and Primate
Episcopal Church Center*

*The Reverend Joan S. Gray
Moderator of the 217th General Assembly
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*

*Bishop E. Earl McCloud, Jr.
African Methodist Episcopal Church
Office of Ecumenical & Urban Affairs*

*Rev. Dr. A Roy Medley, General Secretary
American Baptist Churches USA*

*Most Reverend Richard J. Sklba
Auxiliary Bishop of Milwaukee
Chair - USCCB Committee
for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs*

FROM BETHLEHEM TO JORDAN

The feast of the Baptism of the Lord closes the Christmas season. At daily prayer this day, the Orthodox churches pray:

*Let us assemble in spirit, O faithful,
at the streams of the Jordan
that we might behold a great and mighty
wonder.*

*We shall see the Creator of all made
manifest*

as he comes to be baptized.

*Let us pass, O faithful,
from Bethlehem to Jordan.*

*For behold, the Light which came into the
darkness
there begins to overcome the night.*

Find out the date of your baptism. Ask a relative, or write to the parish that baptized you. Write the date on the new calendar. Celebrate the anniversary this year by participating in the eucharist. Spend some time reflecting on your Christian mission—your part in spreading God's love.

When Jesus was baptized, he came out of the water and heard a heavenly voice say, "You are my beloved; with you I am well pleased." Listen for this voice today whenever you "come out of the water"—the shower, the snow or rain, the



swimming pool, the sudsy kitchen sink. Glory in heaven and peace on earth, now and forever! Alleluia! Amen!

CHOIR START UP!

*This is the best mid-year
opportunity to join a choir!*

**Monday Night Mass
Music Team
Tuesday at 7:00pm**

**Handbell Choir
Wednesday at 6:30pm**

**Children's Choir
Thursday at 6:00pm**

**Adult Choir
Thursday at 7:00pm**

New music for Lent and Easter. Join us!

If you have been considering making the choir part of your ministry at St. Thomas More, this is a great time to get on board. Jump on! Join us!

Faith Formation

Teach and Live the Gospel

Kathleen Bell
Director of Faith Formation
kathleenb@stmoside.org; 758-4100 x110

What's Faith Got to Do With it?

Celebrate Your Baptism

Dear friends in our Catholic Community,

Today we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. Jesus is baptized and sees the Spirit of God come down and rest upon him. Jesus hears the voice confirming who he is:

*"This is my Son,
the Beloved;
he is my Chosen One."*

Today we remember our baptisms and are reconfirmed in who we are called to be. Our Father says to each of us:

*"This is my son, my daughter: (insert your name),
the beloved;
my chosen one."*

In the sacrament of Baptism we are joined to Jesus Christ and we are joined to the Church. We become members of the body of Christ and we share in the mission of Jesus. In Baptism we begin a new life that will be lived in the Spirit.

Today is therefore a day to celebrate our baptisms as well. Do you know the date of your baptism? We never forget the anniversary of our physical birth each year, but we never remember the anniversary of our spiritual re-birth! As the beloved of God, my baptism should permeate my life. . . it is the reason I do what I do. What have I been "chosen" to do for God in 2008?

Catholics understand Baptism to be a sacrament that we continue to live throughout our lives. Through Baptism we are charged with the responsibility to continue the mission of Jesus and to participate in the Church's mission of spreading Christ's message of forgiveness and love throughout the world.



When I am faced with the difficult need to change, how does my faith in Jesus strengthen me to begin anew?

What can I do this week to start my day by focusing on God?

Peanut Butter and Jelly Update:

2008 GOAL: 365 jars
TOTAL to date: 134 jars



Today is a **RE.A.C.H** day!

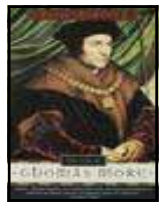
Classes resume at the usual times.

We welcome parents at 12:30pm and 6:25pm to join in the circle of prayer with your child(ren).

Father Mike's Bookies !

The Life of Thomas More, by Peter Ackroyd, is our next book for discussion on April 2.

Copies are available for \$15 outside the Faith Formation Office.



Basic Catechist Formation Course

If you are involved in a teaching ministry of the church (or would like to get involved!), here's a chance to get "qualified."

The Basic Catechist Formation Course is a 48-hour course intended to equip beginning catechists, or those needing renewal in contemporary catechetics, with sufficient background and skill to begin teaching. The course incorporates the essential elements of message, prayer, community, and service and provides an integrated program of doctrinal reflection, catechetical process, religious development, and creative teaching methods for children through adults.

This course is offered at different times and places throughout the diocese. The good news is that one is starting in north county at St. Mary's School in Escondido. It begins February 2 and involves some Saturdays and Thursday evenings until April 12.

To register, call Sharon Twilliger at 745-8255, or for more information, call Patt Goeltz at 727-8442.

Looking for Information on the Catholic Faith?

Are you interested in learning more about Catholicism, becoming a Catholic or returning to the Catholic Church after being away? You're invited to Inquiry Sessions, which meet on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 7:00pm at the Parish Center.

For information, call Bob Taylor at 630-4589.

Stewardship & Development

Serve God's People

Chris Smith
Director of Stewardship & Development
chriss@stmoside.org; 758-4100 x120

Christian Stewardship: Disciples or Kings?

"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." These loving and familiar words from God were heard from the heavens after the Baptism of His Son. The heavens opened for Jesus and he set about doing good works, inspired by the Holy Spirit.

We receive the same grace at our Baptism and we are called by God to do good works and follow the example Jesus gave us. That is why He was sent ~ to set an example of God's kingdom on earth. Now it is our job to do good works and share our gifts.

The following true story illustrates how much one woman clearly understood God's call.

'Wouldn't Be Millionaire'

Eleanor Boyer was a retired buyer of chemicals and office supplies when she won a lump sum of \$11.8 million in the New Jersey lottery. She never had a moment's doubt about what to do with the money. She gave it away; about half of it to the parish where she worshipped all her life, and the rest to the town rescue squad (erasing its deficit), the volunteer fire department and some of the other groups that serve the town where she grew up.

**\$11.8M
Lottery
Winner!**

"No new car, no vacation," she said. "My life is no different. I've given it up to God. I live in God's presence and do God's will, and I did that from the start."

"In an age when people are so driven by material forces," said Ron Czajowski, a vice president of the New Jersey Hospital Association, "the idea of somebody turning over all that sum of money to the community and to the church is inspiring. It makes you step back and think what your priorities are."

Rev. J. Kennedy, pastor of Ms. Boyer's church, said they had invested some of her gift as an endowment and also buying a new pipe organ. "I suggested to Eleanor that the organ be from her, in memory of her parents, and she went along with that," he said.

Ms. Boyer never married and her closest living relatives are three nephews, said the church is her true home. She taught classes there, helped in the church office and counting the collections.

—*Stewardship, January 2008*

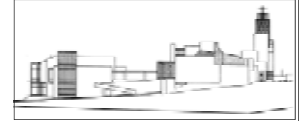
Sharing our blessings (no matter how diverse) is a great way to start 2008. This weekend we are pleased to have Fr. Jacques from our Sister Parish in New Orleans share their story. Reality check for us! If you have been depressed, consider helping others. It is a sure cure and makes God smile at how you return your gifts!

**Stewardship is not humanity's way of raising money
but rather God's way of raising people into
the likeness of His Son. —Doug Carter**

TOWERS OF FAITH

Future Support and Estate Planning Options

Towers of Faith is a grass-roots movement that has arisen due to the visionary leadership and overt generosity of several of our parishioners.



These individuals (several anonymous) have included the St. Thomas More in their estate planning. This helps to ensure their ongoing support and a legacy for our Parish.

Towers of Faith is our future support. Future support refers to gifts which are the result of a parishioner's various means of estate planning vehicles such as:

Designated Beneficiary Accounts,
Last Will and Testament, Living Trust,
Life Insurance, Stocks and Bonds.

Any parishioners who have already included STM in their estate plans are *Towers of Faith* participants. The return envelope included with the brochure (available at the information table on the Plaza) has a check box to mark if you have already included STM in your estate planning. This way we know who you are. We would like to acknowledge your generosity!

If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact us. Your participation is most welcome and appreciated!

Chris Smith at 758-4100, ext. 120, chriss@stmoside.org.

**Do two people in your family know the location of
your will and/or living trust?**

**It is very helpful to us if you let us know if you have
already included STM in your estate planning.**

Thank you to all those who have come forward!

Collection for Week of: January 5/6, 2008

Number of Registered Households:	963
Envelopes	\$ 15,664.99
Children's Envelopes	0.00
Plate	962.50
Total	\$ 16,627.49

*Thank you for keeping your Building Fund pledge current
and for supporting your parish, even when you are away.*

There are many ways to help support your Parish.

We offer a variety of options for easier giving.

In addition to the extra "mail-back" envelopes included in your packet, we offer automatic:

- ◆ Credit Card Withdrawal (Visa or MC)
- ◆ Automatic Checking Account Deduction
- ◆ Automatic Savings Account Deduction

*To participate in these time-saving alternatives,
please contact the Parish Office at:*

758-4100 x100 or parishoffice@stmoside.org

Christmas Angel Thank You

It has been no secret to us that St. Thomas More parishioners are very, very generous but we have to admit that we are overwhelmed. What you have done for others less fortunate than you is just amazing.

We were able to stuff 153 bags and stockings for Catholic Charities and deliver over \$1,000 in gift certificates plus 285 wonderful gifts to Brother Benno's, Casa de Ampora, Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice, and North County Solutions for Change. Needless to say, those organizations were thrilled. Even though we don't get to see the faces of the children we gifted, all of us can imagine their happiness.

In addition, we are so happy to report that we sent Christmas gifts and gift cards to 47 families from our Sister Parish in New Orleans. See page 3 for their thank you.

Last weekend the Pro-Life Committee was able to take hundreds of gifts for newborn babies at Birth Choice of San Marcos and \$405 in cash donations. Those mothers who have chosen life need all the help they can get and your kindness will touch lives far beyond those immediately touched.

We can never thank our faith community nor our great committee enough. But we are sure that the Lord will bless you abundantly for again making it a better Christmas for so many.

A heartfelt thank you to each one of you,
RJ and Suzee Irwin

Ministry to the Sick and Homebound

If you or a family member are unable to come to Mass because of an illness or disability, we have a special group of parishioners who can bring Communion to your home. Please call the Parish Office at 758-4100 x100.

STM Scrip News

Thank you to all who participate in this painless way to earn money for our new sanctuary, and thank you to the merchants that are willing to participate by providing gift certificates at a discount.

Scrip is sold on the Plaza after weekend Masses and in the parish office on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00-10:00am.

For information, call Henny Jocelyn at 726-1177
or visit <http://www.stmoside.org/scrip.htm>

I Want to Earn STM Building Fund \$\$\$ with My...

Albertson's Card #(11 digits) _____

Ralph's Card #(13 digits) _____

Please send me a Food 4 Less Card

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Please place completed form in the collection basket or return it to the SCRIP table after weekend Masses or the Parish

Knights of Columbus News

For those of you who missed out getting your "Christ In Christmas" magnets, or for those of you starting your next year's Christmas shopping early, YES! the magnets are still available, while the supply lasts.

To arrange a purchase, contact 806 8030 or alvin.rouse@cox.net.
—Yours in Christ, Al Rouse, Past Grand Knight.

Parish Potluck

Please come to our next parish potluck on Friday, February 1, at 6:00pm in the lower level of the Parish Center. Please bring one of your favorite main dishes, salads, or desserts. Don't forget your favorite date! If you don't have one, come anyway. Please RSVP if you plan to attend! Germaine Wilmott 758-9949.

Retirement Fund for Religious

Envelopes were attached to the bulletin last weekend for the *Retirement Fund for Religious* annual collection. Over the past eighteen years, parishes in the Diocese of San Diego have contributed \$5,127,215 to help support retired religious. Please also continue to pray for religious priests, brothers, and sisters, especially for the frail and elderly. The envelopes may be returned any time during January. Envelopes will also be available on the information table on the Plaza. Thank you!

Caring Drivers Needed

Several STM parishioners need round trip transportation to church, grocery stores, and medical appointments. If you can help, please contact STM's Disabilities Facilitator at 599-7151.

Publicize Your Parish Event!

Would you like to publicize a parish event to the general public? Submit a Press Release Form at least three weeks in advance of your event to have it advertised in local news publications. Press Release Forms are available:

- on the parish website (www.stmoside.org, Contact Us, Parish Forms),
- the parish office, or
- from Anne Marshall at 727-2668 or annemarshall@sbcglobal.net.



St. Thomas More Vehicle Donation Program

Do you have a vehicle you want to donate?
The St. Thomas More program is easy!

Call us, and we'll have it picked up.
You get the tax deduction!

Call the Parish Office at
760-758-4100 x100



News from the Larger Church

Emmaus Road Initiative Presentations in San Diego—Wednesday, January 16, 7:00pm at USD Degheri Alumni Center and Thursday, January 17, 10:00am at Immaculate Conception Church, 2540 San Diego Ave., Old Town. “Inspiring Wholehearted Faith in a Half-Hearted Age” is the theme for a series of monthly talks given by Mr. Gil Bailie, president of the Cornerstone Forum. For more information, call 866-506-5451 or visit www.cornerstone-forum.org/Emmaus.

Anglican/Roman Catholic Day of Dialogue in San Diego—“Does it Matter? Christ in the World Today”, presented by Dr. Terry McGoldrick, Professor of Religious Studies at USD, and Bishop James Mathes of the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego, on Saturday, January 19, at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 3888 Paducah Drive, San Diego. Starting with prayer at 9:00am, the presentation will be followed by lunch at 12:00noon. The cost is \$20. You may register at the door, or pre-register by mailing a check to Msgr. Dennis Mikulanis, San Rafael Parish, 17252 Bernardo Dr., San Diego, CA 92128.

North County Women’s Group Meeting in Escondido—Magnificat: A Ministry to Catholic Women will meet January 19 at 9:00am at California Center for the Arts in Escondido. Come and gather together for a spirit-filled breakfast. Personal testimony given by Donna Ross. For reservations call Mary Carey at 871-8702 or visit our website at: www.members.cox.net/magnificat.

International Virgin Pilgrim Statue Visits St. Joseph’s Cathedral in San Diego—You are invited to join the Office for Social Ministry and Bishop Salvatore Cordileone on Sunday, January 20, at 2:15pm at St. Joseph Cathedral, 1535 Third Avenue, San Diego, for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and a procession with the Virgin Pilgrim Statue to Family Planning Associates on Sixth Avenue.

Millennium Consort Singers Performing in San Diego—Sunday, January 20, 6:00pm, at St. Paul’s Cathedral. Millennium Consort Singers, conducted by PACEM’s Artistic Director Martin Neary. A stunning professional group from Los Angeles, the singers will perform music of Henry Purcell, Jonathan Harvey, and Ralph Vaughan Williams in St Paul’s Cathedral. Some works are a cappella, and others are for choir and organ. For ticket cost and more information, contact 619-296-6759 or pacem@pacem.music.org.

Prayer Retreats in Silence at Prince of Peace Abbey in Oceanside—“Ask and ye shall receive; seek and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened to you (Luke 11:9).” *Prayer Service in Silence* involves steps leading to contemplative prayer. Open to all Catholics seeking a deeper spirituality. Retreat Master, Fr. Datus, OSB, is an experienced teacher of religious and laity alike. January 21-25. For more information contact 909-790-9243 or ethelbuntydavis@msn.com.

Wine and Chocolate Pairing and Horticultural Tour at Mission San Luis Rey in Oceanside—If you’re looking for a unique celebration close to Valentine’s Day, set aside 4:00-5:00pm on Thursday, January 24. Indulge in a wine and chocolate pairing after embarking on a tour of the historic Mission San Luis Rey grounds. Treat your sweetheart to wines from the Mission

wine label and discover the health benefits of chocolate. The ever-popular Horticultural Tour of the Mission will be held earlier that day: 2:00-4:00pm. Cost: \$10 tour; \$10 wine and chocolate pairing. To make reservations for this wonderful event, please contact 757-3651 x146.

High School Applications for Our Lady of Peace in San Diego—The Academy of Our Lady of Peace is now accepting ninth grade applications for the 2008-2009 school year. The entrance exam will take place on January 26, 8:00am-12:00noon. You may download the application from our website: www.aol.org. For additional information, please call the Academy at 619-725-9118.

Catholic Divorce Care Presentation in San Diego—on Saturday, January 26, 8:30am-4:00pm, at Holy Spirit Parish, 2725 55th St. San Diego. National speakers and authors on family, finance, annulment, law, and theology. \$15 offering includes lunch. Healing Mass at 4:00pm. For more information, call Jessica at 619-401-6445 or Mark at 619-540-4778.

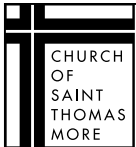
Catholic Widow and Widowers of North County—Our purpose is to support Catholic widows and widowers by fostering friendships through religious and social activities. We invite all Catholic widows and widowers to join us at the 10:30am Mass on January 27, followed by brunch at Shadowridge Country Club after Mass. For reservations and information, contact Helen Kuhn at 598-6248.

Parent Retreat in San Marcos—St. Mark’s in San Marcos is holding its Second Annual Parent Retreat with guest speakers Michael Cumbie and Deacon Frank Mercardante on February 1, 2, and 3. Praise and worship, healing prayer service, opportunities for Eucharistic Adoration, and confession. Cost of \$25 includes dinner on Friday, and breakfast and lunch on Saturday. No overnight stay involved. Open to all adults—don’t miss this weekend of spiritual renewal that will prepare you to raise holy Catholic families! To register, call Jennifer at 744-1130 opt 1.

Women’s Retreat at Mission San Luis Rey in Oceanside—*The Gift and Mystery of Love*—A Women’s Retreat with Fr. Stan Fortuna, CPR, whose inspiring words and music will help us to encounter, be transformed by and become a reflection of the gift and mystery of God’s love in our own lives. Daily Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Stations of the Cross as well as periods of quiet time to pray, reflect and grow in faith. The retreat is scheduled for April 4-6, 2008. The cost is \$210. For more information, contact Judy at 619-884-3829 or salmonja@cox.net.

Healing Prayer at St. James Church in Solana Beach—Healing prayer is offered after the 9:00am Mass every Sunday throughout the year. For more information, contact Sera Schmitt at 944-6827.

National Alliance on Mental Illness—NAMI North Coastal San Diego County is a grassroots, family and consumer self-help support and advocacy organization of families and individuals whose lives have been affected by serious mental illness. For more information, contact www.nami-northcoastal.org or 722-3754.



1450 SOUTH MELROSE DRIVE · OCEANSIDE, CA 92056 · PHONE: 760-758-4100 · FAX: 760-758-4165
 www.stmoside.org · parishoffice@stmoside.org
 Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30-12:00noon and 12:30-4:00pm

Parish Contacts

Updated 08/28/07

Council Chairs: Pastoral—Doug D’Agrosa 941-6800 • **Finance**—Paul Ibbetson 734-1051 • **Development**—Ron Briseno 726-4496

Pastoral Council Committees

- Faith Formation & Evangelization** **Rory Griffin 414-3939**
 - Religious Education (Adults)..... Bret Schanzenbach 806-6722
 - Small Church Communities Sondra Parks 598-1269
 - Little Rock Bible Studies Masako Streling 295-2594
 - Religious Education (Children) Kathleen Bell 758-4100 x110
 - Liturgy of the Word for Children..... Cathy Meyer 598-7853
 - Sacramental Preparation Kathleen Bell 758-4100 x110
 - Mid. School Youth Ministry Ron & Louise Briseno 758-4100 x153
 - High School Youth Ministry..... Jeff & Gale Gibbons 726-7236
 - Evangelization Available
 - Vocations Available
 - RCIA/Adults Mario Diaz 758-7870
 - RCIA/Children..... Jeanette Marriott 434-1818
- Liturgy** **Available**
 - Altar Linen Care Marge Gillen 639-1929
 - Bereavement Facilitator Sr. Maureen Brown 758-4100 x131
 - Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs..... Regina Aulisio 753-7234
 - Environment & Art Kathy Quinn 722-7525
 - Eucharistic Adoration John O’Donnell 598-6003
 - Interior Design Team Pat & Phil Goscienski 732-1414
 - Liturgical Ministries Douglas Lynn 758-4100 x140
 - Liturgical Music Douglas Lynn 758-4100 x140
 - Wedding Coordinator..... Geralyn Sandin 940-1553
- Marriage & Family Life** **Kalei & Paul Mendiola 945-9042**
 - FAMILIA Kalei & Paul Mendiola 945-9042
 - Family Services Deacon Tom Goeltz 758-4100 x130
 - Marriage Preparation Rev. Michael Ratajczak 758-4100 x100
 - Deacon Tom Goeltz 758-4100 x130
 - Parents & Tots Paul Mendiola 945-9042
 - Widows & Widowers..... Helen Kuhn 727-8612
- Parish Organizations & Events** **Available**
 - Golf Tournament..... John Murphy 945-9935
 - Historian Anne Marshall 727-2668
 - Knights of Columbus Tom Dean 476-0431
 - Library Chris James 598-5881
 - Spirited Seniors..... Stella Leu  726-3869
 - Vera Bayliss
 - Women’s Guild..... Germaine Wilmott 758-9949

Social Ministries **Suzee Irwin 597-2706**

- Blood Drive Linda Dicus 726-5081
 - Bereavement Follow-up Support Linda Dicus 726-5081
 - Brother Benno’s..... Deacon Tom & Patt Goeltz 727-8442
 - Christmas Angel Ministry..... R.J. Irwin 597-2706
 - CPR/AED Classes Phil Goscienski 732-1414
 - Disability Facilitation Ann Eriksson 599-7151
 - Fraternity & Michaelle House Carmen Tamayo 727-3028
 - Huggy Buddies Program..... Gale Gibbons 726-7236
 - Jail Ministry Rita McCarthy 758-4100 x100
 - More’s Workers..... Dick Belprez 295-1431
 - Prayer Request Line..... Pat Wong 806-1310
 - Norma Flanagan 630-0180
 - Project Linus..... Mary Coxon 599-8760
 - Pro-Life Activities Jane Kelleher 724-9658
 - Sick & Homebound (*Eucharist*) Jean McCloskey 643-2363
 - Sister Parish Program Sr. Maureen Brown, 758-4100 x131
 - St. Bonaventure Mission..... Knights of Columbus 727-6165
- Office Support**..... **Henny Jocelyn 758-4100 x100**
- Adopt-a-Project Joe Garcia 758-4100 x151
 - Chair Set-Up..... Lorraine Doering 758-4100 x102
 - General Support..... Henny Jocelyn 758-4100 x100
 - Kitchen Overseer DeAnne Gonzales 598-8748
 - STM Host Program..... Henny Jocelyn 758-4100 x100

Development Council Committees

- Annual Catholic Appeal Diana Diaz 758-7870
- Capital Campaign Bill Ipsen 723-0402
- New Construction Brian Leahey 598-5697
- Parish Membership..... Louise Briseno 726-4496
- Planned Giving Chris Smith 758-4100 x120
- Publicity/Public Relations..... Gloria Larson 295-7834
- Press Releases..... Anne Marshall 727-2668
- Sacrificial Giving/Tithing Paul Ibbetson 734-1051
- Scrip Sales Henny Jocelyn 726-1177
- Stewardship Chris Smith 758-4100 x120
- Vehicle Donations Henny Jocelyn 758-4100 x100

Pastoral Staff

- Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor 758-4100 x100 michaelr@stmoside.org
- Deacon Tom Goeltz 758-4100 x130 or 727-8442 thomasg@stmoside.org
- Rev. Thomas W. Thompson, Pastoral Associate; Hospital Chaplain at
 Scripps La Jolla, Scripps Green & UCSD Thornton 858-945-2251 parishoffice@stmoside.org
- Sr. Maureen Brown, Pastoral Associate 758-4100 x131 maureenb@stmoside.org
- Kathleen Bell, Director of Faith Formation 758-4100 x110 kathleenb@stmoside.org
- Gale & Jeff Gibbons, High School Youth Ministers..... 758-4100 x150 jeffg@stmoside.org, galeg@stmoside.org
- Ron & Louise Briseno, Middle School Youth Ministers..... 758-4100 x153 ronb@stmoside.org, louiseb@stmoside.org
- Douglas Lynn, Director of Music/Coordinator of Liturgical Ministries 758-4100 x140 douglasl@stmoside.org
- Kathy Santy, Assistant Music Director 758-4100 x100 kathys@stmoside.org
- Chris Smith, Director of Stewardship & Development..... 758-4100 x120 chriss@stmoside.org
- Joe Garcia, Director of Maintenance..... 758-4100 x151 joeg@stmoside.org
- Henny Jocelyn, Receptionist/Secretary..... 758-4100 x100 hennyj@stmoside.org
- Natalie Provinse, Bookkeeper..... 758-4100 x104 nataliep@stmoside.org
- Lorraine Doering, Parish Office Technician 758-4100 x102 lorrained@stmoside.org

Patronize Our Advertisers

We wish to thank the many neighborhood merchants who generously support our bulletin with their advertising. Please patronize these merchants and let them know you saw their ad in the St. Thomas More bulletin. We are currently taking new ads. Any business owners are welcome to advertise their