

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 20, 2008 • Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Did You Know?

Insurance is a must. Our multi-peril insurance premium for this fiscal year is \$19,887. The insurance is provided through the Catholic Mutual Group. Be mindful, though, you are still "in good hands."

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*Inserts: Did You Know Envelope; Capital Campaign Update;
Women's Guild Game Day*

Pastor's Column

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

Trading Places



"Father Michael, thanks for being with us this weekend! It was great to have you. When our Father Michael returns, I am going to talk to him to see how we can help you build your Church."

This was the comment of a woman who approached me after one of the three Masses that I celebrated at St. Peter Claver in New Orleans, our Sister Parish, last weekend. And it was a response to my homily in which I shared with them our almost 23-year history as a Parish-in-formation now on the brink of building our permanent place of worship.

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Calendar Highlights

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

The Week Ahead

- Jan 20 Knights of Columbus Breakfast
 Jan 25-27 Teen Retreat: *SIX30*
 Jan 26-27 Brother Benno's Blanket Drive
 Jan 27 Liturgy of the Word for Children at 8:30am Mass
 Jan 27 North County Catholic Widows and Widowers to attend 10:30am Mass
 Jan 27 RE.A.CH Classes, including high school

The Month Ahead

- Jan 28 Project Linus Coffee

The Year Ahead

- Feb 1 Parish Potluck
 Feb 5 Ash Wednesday
 Masses at 8:15am, 12:00noon, 5:30pm, 7:30pm
 Feb 16-Mar 2 New Orleans Trip
 Feb 17 New Member Reception
 Feb 25 Lenten Day of Recollection sponsored by
 Women's Guild and Spirited Seniors
 Mar 1 ~~Women's Prayer Breakfast~~
 (rescheduled to Apr 26)
 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*
 Apr 26 Women's Prayer Breakfast
 June 20 Ninth Annual Golf Classic/Evening Festivities
 July 21-25 *Power Lab* Vacation Bible School
 Nov 9 Towers of Faith Dinner

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 Zeeff, 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 20 (64)

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 49:3,5-6

Psalm 40

1 Corinthians 1:1-3

John 1:29-34

Monday, January 21 (311)

Agnes, virgin, martyr

1 Samuel 15:16-23

Psalm 50:8-9,16-17,21,23

Mark 13:44-46

Tuesday, January 22 (312)

Vincent, deacon, martyr

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalm 89:20-22,27-28

Mark 2:18-22

Wednesday, January 23 (313)

1 Samuel 17:32-33,37,40-51

Psalm 144:1-2,9-10

Mark 3:1-6

Thursday, January 24 (314)

Francis de Sales, bishop,

doctor of the Church

1 Samuel 18:6-9;19:1-7

Psalm 56:2-3,9-13

Mark 3:7-12

Friday, January 25 (519)

The Conversion of St. Paul, Apostle

Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22

Psalm 117:1-2

Mark 16:15-18

Saturday, January 26 (520)

Timothy and Titus, bishops

2 Timothy 1:1-8 or Titus 1:1-5

Psalm 96:1-3,7-8a,10

Luke 10:1-9

Sunday, January 27 (67)

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 8:23-9:3

Psalm 27

1 Corinthians 1:10-13,17

Matthew 4:12-23

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 19, 5:00pm

James Taefly ☩

Sunday, January 20, 8:30

William Clayton Provinse ☩

Sunday, January 20, 10:30am

Anna Bushong ☩

Monday, January 21, 8:15am

Tony Lucey ☩

Tuesday, January 22 8:15am

Louise Lewis ☩

Wednesday, January 23, 8:15am

Ivone Zych ☩

Thursday, January 24, 8:15am

Shannon Beach ☩

Friday, January 25, 8:15am

Bob & Rory Reidle

Saturday, January 26, 5:00pm

James Tutino ☩

Sunday, January 27, 8:30am

Katherine Schmitz

Sunday, January 27, 10:30am

J. C. Gonzalez ☩

Prayer List

Jay Ahmann
 Michael Ainis
 Charlotte Atkinson & family
 Patricia Barbour
 Carl Bechtold
 Edward Bednarz
 Cindra Bell
 Tom Belprez
 Mary Ann Brooker
 Janet Brown
 Carl Coleman
 James Coleman
 Barbara Colton
 Thomas Cornwell & family
 Celia Dagdayan
 Deborah Darsey
 Daphne Dunn
 James Echter
 Larry Fisk
 Edmund Fredette
 Bob Gardiner
 Cheryl Glenane
 Rick Gonzalez
 Anita Hage
 The Harker Family
 Bud Hazlett
 Barry Henwood
 Cynthia Horner
 Gordon Jacobs & family
 Bernie & Ginny Jaeger
 Sue Johnston
 Colleen Kaup
 The Kaup & Fisk Families
 Paul Kennedy
 Debbie Kinny
 Sr. Anne Kremenik
 Brandon LeBlanc
 Jackie Lynn
 James MacArthur
 Ken Mauro
 Patrick McCarthy
 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
 Bill Pulver
 Laurie Riggs
 The Robinson Family
 Sr. Loyola Romey
 Dorothy Rouse
 Lynne Rumpf
 The Shima family
 Marilyn Sinkez
 Richard Vallandigham
 The Vasquez & Borba Families
 Doris Vessell
 Lee Vincent
 Vanessa Vitiello-Koble
 Isabelle Wallin
 Kevin Watson-Graff

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

(Pastor's Column continued from page 1)

These words capture well the warm hospitality and the generous spirit of the people of St. Peter Claver. After all that they have been through in the past two and a half years trying to recover from the catastrophic aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, while many of them are still displaced and living with other relatives, and many still existing in small FEMA trailers next to their gutted homes, there is a desire to help others. After they have been messed over by Insurance Companies and all levels of government who try to find ways not to help them, after they have experienced Hurricane Katrina related illnesses and deaths of loved ones, there is still a desire to help others.

Their call to live the Gospel propels them beyond themselves and their needs and moves them to consider the needs of others. That is one of the many contradictions that we live when we walk as Disciples of Jesus! That kind of contradiction is what brings healing and salvation, so contrary to what the world offers. Caring about the needs of others, while still in great need themselves, is the path to healing, the path to personal "wholeness and sanity" in the face of societal fracture and "insane" governmental response to the needs of the people. They know the road well!

My response to this lady was that you have already helped us! When you opened your lives to us, and allowed the people of St. Thomas More to walk with you in your pain and sorrow, you made a difference in us. Your example deepened our faith, and brought us closer to Jesus.

For those who went to New Orleans last year, I know how moved you were by your experience and by the faith of the people of St. Peter Claver. And you brought back with you a "spirit" that has moved through our faith community of St. Thomas More, and has strengthened all of us in many ways.

In my homily, I told the people of St. Peter Claver that I was there with them for the weekend simply to say "Thank You." "Thank You" for strengthening the faith life and the "spirit" of the many faith communities and civic organizations that have reached out to them and were accepted with open arms by them to walk with them not only in their joys, but also in their pain and sorrow.

I encouraged them to remember that whenever they were feeling discouraged, whenever they were losing hope, whenever they wanted to give up the battle, that they needed to remember that their witness is strengthening the faith walk of so many people across the country, in ways they may never know. They are making an enormous difference in the lives of so many, in so many ways. St. Thomas More is just one beneficiary of their goodness and generosity!

The lady who spoke to me after Mass doesn't realize, but she and all the others of St. Peter Claver have already helped St. Thomas More build our Church.

I received a Christmas card this year from Larry and Betty Dorsa. The note in the card said that I should not be discouraged by the amount of time it is taking as we move through the process of building our permanent worship space. They said, "Father, the buildings will come. We already have our Church!"

My visit to St. Peter Claver reaffirmed my faith and has strengthened me as we continue on our journey as the Faith Community of St. Thomas More.

We are already Church! The buildings will come...

F. Mike

Equipment Needed for New Orleans



The volunteers traveling to New Orleans haven't found an enclosed trailer to borrow, so they are pursuing another approach. Contractors store their tools at a jobsite in large steel tool chests, costing about \$250 each. These chests are about 24" x 24" x 48" and can be chained in the bed of a pickup truck for transport. We would use these locked chests to transport our tools from California and then chain them to a post at the worksite in New Orleans. If you know where such a chest(s) can be borrowed, please call Dick Belprez, 295-1431.

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 last week's bulletin or on the information table on the Plaza and return your contribution by February 4. Thank you!

Thank You's

Dear Friends at St. Thomas More,

Thank you so much for everything St. Thomas More provided for our kids this Christmas. They had a wonderful Christmas and also received the things that they really dreamed of. We thank you for helping us give them the love of Christ through you.

We appreciate the partnership we have with St. Thomas More and look forward to a very special year to come for you and our families here at Solutions. Please pass on the holiday cheer and the gratefulness we have for you in Christ to everyone there. Many blessings to you all.

*Sincerely,
Antonea Peterson
Faith Outreach Coordinator,
North County Solutions For Change*

Dear Pastor Ratajczak and Parishioners,

On behalf of Catholic Charities, I thank you for your donation of \$3,100 to the Catholic Charities San Diego County 2007 Fire Relief Fund. During this painful and difficult time, Catholic Charities of San Diego will be providing assistance to families and individuals that have experienced devastating loss. Our financial help will support these families as they begin to rebuild and start new lives. *This is only possible because of you.*

Please be assured that 100% of your donation will be used for services to the fire victims. I ask that you pray for the healing of our cities, the rebuilding efforts in our neighborhoods, and the long-term recovery of the families affected by these fires. Thank you again and may God continue to bless you.

*Thank you!
Sister RayMonda DuVall
Executive Director
Catholic Charities, Diocese of San Diego*

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 holydays

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!

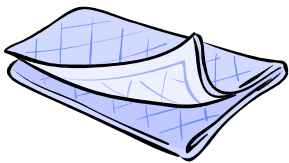
Exposition of the Eucharist on First Fridays and one other day of each month.



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.

Brother Benno's Needs Blankets



Deacon Tom's truck will be in the parking lot before all of the Masses next weekend (January 26-27) to collect blankets for Brother Benno's. Your generosity is appreciated, especially during these cold nights.

Welcome to Newly Registered Parishioners

Wil & Charlene Pinaroc & family

In Memoriam



Please pray for the souls of:

Juanita Shima, a former parishioner, who died in December. Please keep the family in your prayers.

Greg Jacobs, who died last week. Greg is the grandson of former parishioner Gordon Jacobs. Please keep the family in your prayers.

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

Women's Guild News

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.

Day of Recollection—Monday, February 25, 9:00am-3:00pm—Abbot Charles Wright from Prince of Peace Abbey in Oceanside will be conducting this day of reflection, including talks, Mass, lunch and Stations of the Cross. For more details, watch for the flyer in next week's bulletin.

High School Youth Ministry

SUPERHEROES NIGHT

Monday, January 22, 7:00-8:30pm
Join us on the lower level!

Retreat registration is CLOSED.

Sign ups for Steubenville San Diego (in July) begin next week.

For more information, call Gale at 726-7236

Middle School Youth Ministry



**Middle School
Youth Group**

Next Meeting

Monday, January 28, 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

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25

8:45am - 7:30pm

Family Hour: 6:30 - 7:30pm

Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle

Paul's entire life can be explained in terms of one experience—his meeting with Jesus on the road to Damascus. In an instant, he saw that all the zeal of his dynamic personality was being wasted, like the strength of a boxer swinging wildly. Perhaps he had never seen Jesus, who was only a few years older. But he had acquired a zealot's hatred of all Jesus stood for, as he began to harass the Church: "...entering house after house and dragging out men and women, he handed them over for imprisonment" (Acts 8:3b). Now he himself was "entered," possessed, all his energy harnessed to one goal—being a slave of Christ in the ministry of reconciliation, an instrument to help others experience the one Savior.

One sentence determined his theology: "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting" (Acts 9:5b). Jesus was mysteriously identified with people—the loving group of people Saul had been running down like criminals. Jesus, he saw, was the mysterious fulfillment of all he had been blindly pursuing.

From then on, his only work was to "present everyone perfect in Christ. For this I labor and struggle, in accord with the exercise of his power working within me" (Colossians 1:28b-29). "For our gospel did not come to you in word alone, but also



in power and in the Holy Spirit and with much conviction" (1 Thessalonians 1:5a).

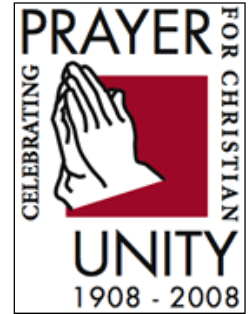
Paul's life became a tireless proclaiming and living out of the message of the cross: Christians die baptismally to sin and are buried with Christ; they are dead to all that is sinful and unredeemed in the world. They are made into a new creation, already sharing Christ's victory and someday to rise from the dead like him. Through this risen Christ the Father pours out the Spirit on them, making them completely new.

So Paul's great message to the world was: You are saved entirely by God, not by anything you can do. Saving faith is the gift of total, free, personal and loving commitment to Christ, a commitment that then bears fruit in more "works" than the Law could ever contemplate.

Reading Paul's Letters

Paul is undoubtedly hard to understand. His style often reflects the rabbinical style of argument of his day, and often his thought skips on mountaintops while we plod below. But perhaps our problems are accentuated by the fact that so many of his beautiful jewels have become part of the everyday coin in our Christian language. For example...

"Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, [love] is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things" (1 Corinthians 13:4-7).



Pray without ceasing...

But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters...Be at peace among yourselves. And we urge you, beloved to admonish the idlers, encourage the faint-hearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them. See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:12a, 13b-18

Fearing that his work had been in vain and "able to bear it no longer" (3:1) Paul, unable himself to return, had sent Timothy to Thessalonica. Timothy had returned with news of the community's strong faith and love, and its continued loyalty to Paul himself. 1 Thessalonians was Paul's response to this good news—but also to the challenges facing the growing church.

He wrote first to thank the community for its strength in the face of persecution. Second, for all his relief and joy at Timothy's report, he recognized in it the seeds of division within the church, and thus hastened to address the diverse questions raised within the community.

One of Paul's central aims was to build up the community in its unity. Even death does not break the bonds which unite it as the one body of Christ; Christ has died and risen for all, so that at Christ's coming both those who have already fallen asleep, and those still living "may live with him" (5:10). This brought Paul to the imperatives in the text above. The passage begins with Paul's plea that the members of the community "be at peace among yourselves" (5:13b)—a peace which is not simply the absence of conflict but a state of harmony in which the gifts of all within the community contribute to its thriving and growth.

Intention for the Day

**It is faith in Jesus Christ
that brings salvation.**

**May we always realize that our good
works are a thanksgiving and response
for this gift.**

Faith Formation

Teach and Live the Gospel

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

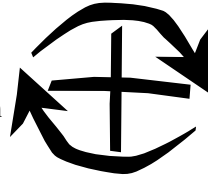
What's Faith Got to Do With it?

Liturgical Year

In the liturgical rhythm of 2008 there are but three weeks between the close of the Christmas Season and the beginning of Lent. Ash Wednesday is February 6 this year; Easter is March 23.

At St. Thomas More we are blest to have four candidates and catechumens currently in our RCIA process. The Church strongly recommends that the period of catechumenate be a full year. During this time the catechumens are formed in the Christian way of life and

- “presented with Catholic teaching to enlighten their faith,
- direct the heart toward God,
- foster participation in the liturgy,
- inspire apostolic activity and
- nurture a life completely in accord with the spirit of Christ.” —(RCIA, ¶ 78)



In order to allow the time for this development, our current group look forward to celebrating the Easter Sacraments in 2009 rather than at the Easter Vigil, 2008.

Remember: Lourdes Acevedo, Kurt Schwend, Billy Turley and Bri Wasch “become familiar with the Christian way of life and are helped by the example and support of sponsors and the entire Christian Community...to keep their hopes set on Christ.”

—(RCIA, ¶ 75)

At St. Thomas More we continually welcome into this process new members who feel God’s call to our Catholic/Christian way of life. For more information give our RCIA Director a call: Mario Diaz, 758-7870, or contact Kathleen Bell.

Little Books

In this liturgical rhythm, you can now replace your Little Blue Book with the

- Little Purple Book (for children, approximately 7-12)
- Little Black Book (for teens through adults)
- El Librito Negro (en español)

They are available at the Information Table on weekends and the Church Office during the week. Your \$2.00 donation helps cover our cost.

Peanut Butter and Jelly Update:

2008 GOAL: 365 jars
TOTAL to date: 142 jars



Kid's Tough Questions

“Why does prayer sometimes work and sometimes doesn't?”

- “Teach kids the truth about prayer. It’s not a ‘gimme’ list or bargaining chip or quick fix. Prayer is time spent talking with and listening to God.” ~ *Kandi Elliott*
- “Prayer isn’t like a Christian rabbit’s foot—rub it and get your wish. Prayer is communication with God who sees the big picture in our lives. Sometimes we don’t get the answer we want because God knows it wouldn’t be good for us. Other times people who aren’t following Jesus do things that affect us. God won’t *make* them do right things. Everyone has the free will to make bad choices, even if we pray that they won’t. But we know Jesus is always with us when we walk through difficult, hard, or hurtful places. ~ *Marlene Le Fever*
- “It can be frustrating when God feels silent, like God’s not listening. Imagine walking up to an elevator and pushing the ‘up’ button. After one minute, the average person gets impatient if the door doesn’t open. Three minutes seems like forever. Prayer can feel that way. Often we don’t just want God to answer our prayers, we want them answered NOW. God does open the best doors to the best places, but in God’s time.” —*John Trent*

RE.A.CH—Perfect Attendance!

Special congratulations to:

- * Mr. & Mrs. Cap’s Level 4 class, *JUDITH* for perfect attendance THREE sessions in a row!
- * Mrs. Kizer’s Kindergarten, *KINGS*. . . a wonderful way to welcome your new catechist!



Families new to our parish are most welcome in our religious education programs. If you are a registered member of our parish and have children between 4 and 17, please be in touch so we can partner with you in the faith formation of your child.

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.



Stewardship & Development

Serve God's People

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

Christian Stewardship

“Blessed are all who put their trust in God.”

—Psalm 2:12

Jesus did not say that we were not to be industrious, for birds are very industrious. They arise early in the morning and go out to collect the provisions that God has supplied.

The flowers flourish and are beautifully clothed, but their roots reach down deep to tap the resources that God has put into the ground for their enrichment.

The birds remind us that food should not be our chief concern and the lilies show us that worrying over appearance does not make us beautiful . . .

Two conflicting forces cannot exist in one human heart.

- ◆ When doubt reigns, faith cannot abide.
- ◆ Where hatred rules, love is crowded out.
- ◆ Where selfishness rules, there love cannot dwell.
- ◆ When worry is present, trust cannot crowd its way in.

The very best prescription for banishing worry is found in Psalm 37:5: “Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him and he shall bring it to pass.” The word “commit” means to turn over to, to entrust completely.

—Billy Graham, *Unto the Hills*

Last weekend STM parishioners heard a lot about “faith” from Fr. Mike Jacques of St. Peter Claver in New Orleans. The homilies and testimony Fr. Jacques gave us were gifts and food for thought. If not for the grace of God, we too might have lost our homes, jobs and earthly belongings.

We learned of the hardships that his parishioners and neighbors



have had since Hurricane Katrina. But more than the hardships, we heard of their strong faith and how these children of God “keep on keeping on,” with hope that there is light at the end of their tunnel. Eventually they all “hope” to live in their own homes once again.

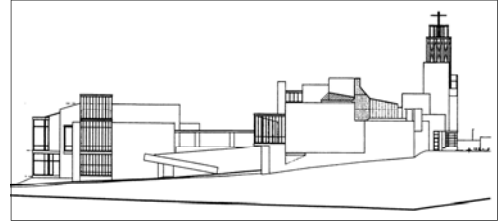
Meanwhile, our Fr. Mike was sharing testimony in New Orleans about our faith community at St. Thomas More, and the journey that we are on right now. The prayers of this warm Sister Parish are with all of us as we move forward with our plans!

So, filled with faith and hope, we too “keep on keeping on” with faith that our time is coming and do the best we can to prepare for that with what God has given us. For all that we have ~ Amen!!!

What we weave in time we must wear in eternity.

—B. Johnson

A WAY TO GIVE ~ A WAY TO RECEIVE



DESIGNATED BANK ACCOUNTS, LIFE INSURANCE, MUTUAL FUNDS, WILLS, LIVING TRUSTS, STOCKS, IRA'S

There have been changes in the tax laws that are beneficial to both the recipient and the giver. A few examples of Planned Giving to STM are: Designated Beneficiary Accounts, Wills, Living Trusts, Stocks, Life Insurance and Mutual Funds.

This program is one way of helping the Parish raise the resources necessary to continue our campus build out and also help plan for our future needs (i.e., Tower of Faith participants). Planned Giving is a generic term that covers the many ways an individual can give to a charity while, in many cases, avoiding taxes.

For more information please contact:

Chris Smith at 758-4100 x120 or chriss@stmoside.org.

“Our Journey Into The Future . . . Together” includes our Faith journey as well as the build out of our Parish Campus.

Collection for Week of: January 12/13, 2008

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Number of Registered Households: | 961 |
| Envelopes | \$ 8,523.48 |
| Children's Envelopes | 0.00 |
| Plate | 1,085.00 |
| Total | \$ 9,608.48 |

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

Parish "Build-Out" Moves Forward!

In addition to the update presented at all the Masses this weekend and the flyer in this bulletin, you can also visit the parish website (www.stmoside.org) to view the slideshow that was being shown on the Plaza after Masses (or share it with friends). Look for the link right on the home page.



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!

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 Office during the week. Thank you!

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.

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



Project Linus Coffee



Welcome to the Project Linus Coffee Monday, January 28, 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.

News from the Larger Church

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.

Theology on Tap for Young Adults in San Marcos—*Getting to Know Pope Benedict XVI* is the topic for the winter series, on Tuesdays from January 22-February 12, 7:00-8:30pm at Acapulco Restaurant and Catnina, 1020-50 West San Marcos Blvd., San Marcos. For more information, contact Carrie Giebel at 858-590-8260 or cgiebel@diocese-sdiego.org.

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.

Catholic School Openings at St. Mary Star of the Sea in Oceanside—Pre-School through Grade 8 at St. Mary Star of the Sea Parish School. Are you interested in learning more about how Catholic Education could benefit your children? Join us for an Open House on Sunday, January 27, 10:30am-12:30pm., at 515 Wisconsin Ave., Oceanside. For additional information, please call 722-7259.

2008 Diocesan Revival in San Diego—January 28-30, 7:00pm each evening, at Christ the King Parish. This year's theme is *Transformed by the Renewing of Your Mind*, with Rev. Anthony Bozeman of the Archdiocese of New Orleans as the preacher. The Revival is sponsored by the Diocesan Commission for African American Catholics. There is no charge and all are welcome!

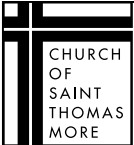
Parent Retreat in San Marcos—St. Mark's in San Marcos is holding its Second Annual Parent Retreat with guest speakers Michael Cumbie and Deacon Frank Mercardante on February 1, 2, and 3. Praise and worship, healing prayer service, opportunities for Eucharistic Adoration, and confession. Cost of \$25 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.

University of San Diego's Center for Christian Spirituality in San Diego Announces Spring Schedule—Visit www.sandiego.edu/ccs for details on classes, presentations, and field trips for personal enrichment, social justice awareness, and academic and professional continuing education.



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 Aulizio 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

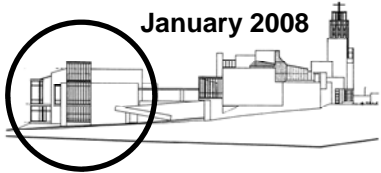
Pastoral Staff

- 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

Did You Know?
**Your monthly opportunity to help with
the Operating Budget.**
We must be able to maintain
what we have in order to
“Journey Into The Future . . . Together”
and build our church.



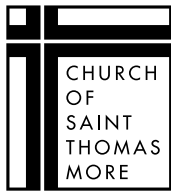
Church of St. Thomas More
1450 South Melrose Drive • Oceanside, CA 92056
760-758-4100 • 760 758-4165 fax
parishoffice@stmoside.org • www.stmoside.org

Please make checks payable to:
Church of St. Thomas More
with memo “Operating Budget.”

Name: _____
Phone: _____

Envelopes may be returned any time during the month via
the weekend collection, the Parish Office, or the mail.

Parish ID#: _____
Amount Enclosed: \$ _____



January 20, 2008

UPDATE

Our Journey Into The Future . . . Together



Capital Campaign Highlights

Inside this flyer, you will find more details on...

Progress:

- ◆ \$5.66 million* in pledges; \$3.5 million in payments

*Pledge detail:

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| \$4,886,000 | Pledges |
| 264,000 | Investment gifts (i.e., annuities, stocks, charitable remainder trusts, etc.) (Note that these gifts are "fluid." Actual amounts that will be realized by the Parish will not be known until the deaths of the individual donors.) |
| 510,000 | Donation of home to the Parish that is now the rectory (This amount reflects current market value) |
| \$5,660,000 | TOTAL |

Accomplishments:

- ◆ Paying down our present debt from \$795,000 to \$531,000
- ◆ \$589,000 purchase price & \$52,000 in improvements for five additional acres of land to guarantee sufficient Parish parking and playfields for the future school
- ◆ \$122,000 for the Secondary Education Initiative, specifically for Pax Christi, the future North County Catholic High School

Approval to move forward :

- ◆ \$8.5 million needed for the church, bell tower, memorial gardens, and daily chapel, starting with hiring an architect and an interior design consultant,
- ◆ Drawing up all the construction documents and obtaining the permits required to start construction (an 18-24 month process)

Next steps:

- ◆ Maintaining our operating income, renewing and paying our pledges so that there will be sufficient funds on deposit when we seek permission from the Diocese to break ground when our permits are ready

As chairperson of the Capital Campaign, I have promised that I would provide our parishioners with regular updates to keep everyone current on developments as our Capital Campaign moves forward.

Our last update was November 2006. Most of what is contained in this report is good news!

I am happy to note that our Capital Campaign, *“Our Journey Into The Future . . . Together,”* continues to exceed financial projections at this time.

As of January 1, 2008, we have pledges and gifts that total \$5.66 million, of which we have collected \$3.5 million. The building fund monies we collect are deposited in the Parish and School Deposit and Loan Trust (PSDL) with the Diocese.

This tremendous support amounts to 77% of Parish households who have made a pledge, and 90% of Parish households who have financially supported the campaign in a variety of ways.

As a reminder, our ultimate goal of this campaign is to raise \$12.4 million dollars which is directed toward the church, daily chapel, memorial gardens, bell tower, Parish offices, youth center, paying off our original debt, and fulfilling our pledge to the Secondary Education Initiative. All of these items are elements of this campaign that has been under way for the past three years.

This past year we began making payments toward our \$1 million pledge for the creation of Pax

Christi Catholic High School here in North County. Bishop Brom, in his recent visit to St. Thomas More, has assured us that the Parish money we raise is designated for the Pax Christi High School only. At this point we have \$122,000 collected for the Secondary Education Initiative.

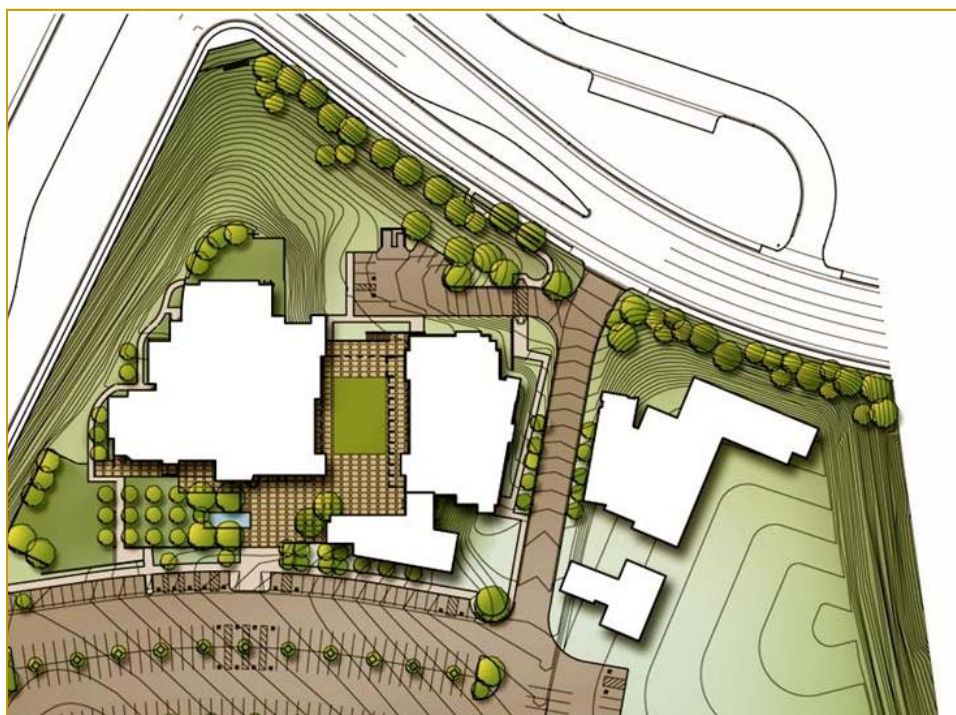
Additionally, we are now secure in owning enough property for our eventual build out with the five-acre parcel adjacent to our property which was purchased and paid for last year. We were able to purchase this land for \$589,000 and have paid \$52,000 in the last two years for property improvements and fencing this land to keep it secure. This five-acre parcel will ensure that we have enough parking for future growth, and that there will be proper playfields for our future grade school.

Also, we are paying off our original interest-free loan from the Diocese. Four years ago when Fr. Mike arrived in the Parish, the debt was \$795,000. Two years ago we began paying down the debt at \$11,000 per month, and our present balance is \$531,000.

It is important to note that, while the Capital Campaign is progressing nicely, our Parish Finance Council, together with our Pastor and the Bishop, will not allow St. Thomas More to move forward with the new church unless and until everyone is comfortable that we have the financial means to maintain the space we currently occupy.

As you know, our operating budget has been a challenge the last two years. As Parish leadership, that is the Development, Finance, and Pastoral Councils, we have responded to this challenge in several ways. We have trimmed expenses as best we can and still maintain all the ministries that our Pastor, with consultation from these three councils, has determined is necessary to continue the mission and ministry of Jesus for this time and this place.

In the last two years, a special campaign, **“Did You Know?”** has begun to inform Parishioners about the cost of continuing the mission and ministry of Jesus at



St. Thomas More. You have heard the call and have responded. In 2007, this special campaign raised \$42,739 for our operating budget. A special thank you for your enthusiastic response to this important campaign is in order.

At the same time, our Parish has responded with renewed enthusiasm in weekly donations and combined with special fundraising efforts such as the annual golf tournament, which raises some \$40,000 for the annual operating budget, we have been able to operate with a balanced budget.



I cannot stress enough how important it is that we continue to demonstrate to the Bishop and the Diocese that we are capable of securing enough funds in our weekly offerings to support our current mission. Again, thanks to all of you for your continued support.

In his last visit, Bishop Brom announced his support for us to move forward with our next step in the process, which is the hiring of an architect and interior design consultant and to begin obtaining all the permits necessary to move forward with construction. This entire process will take 18-24 months to complete.

At the same time, our Parish leadership committee has held meetings to determine exactly what to include in the next phase of construction. Following consultation with our current architect, and assessing our current financial situation, it was decided that the church and bell tower be constructed and, as well, the shell for the daily chapel, at a cost of \$8.2 million. For reasons of structural integrity, the shell for the daily chapel needs to be constructed as part of the church building. The majority of cost associated with the daily chapel will be interior finish and can be completed at a later date if we do not have sufficient funds at the time we are ready to build. We will also commission the architect to design the Parish offices and youth center and create the necessary construction documents at the same time in order to save further design costs.

Now, perhaps, the most important part of our discussion involves the coming together of what we call the time line and the fund line.

The time line involves the lead time we need from a planning perspective, including architects and designers and especially the permitting process from various city agencies prior to beginning actual construction. Equally important, it includes consultation with the Diocese as to the availability of funds to borrow to begin construction. The Diocese will be looking carefully to be assured we have the proper amount of funds on hand to meet the established criteria for borrowing that all projects must meet, while at the same time not compromising the mission of our Parish financially.

The fund line involves the overall pledge commitments and more specifically the amount of funds collected toward the project at a given time.

The simple fact is that for this \$8.2 million dollar project, under current diocesan policies and with our current financial situation, we would qualify for a \$2.1 million loan, which would be limited to monthly debt payments that cannot exceed more than 25% of our operating income.

This means that when we are ready to seek our **new loan**, our current debt must be paid off and we will need to have at least one-third of the project cost on deposit to meet Diocesan policy and demonstrate our fiscal responsibility.

Presently we are on track to meet all of these requirements, when the architectural and design work and the permit process will be complete.

So what needs to happen is that the time line and the fund line must meet in order to proceed with the actual construction of the church. The length of time involved in this actual planning process is substantial.

With all of that said, we are now in control of our own destiny. The time line planning will take care of itself. The question for all of us now is: “will we be ready with the fund line?” So far we have exceeded our goal, but in order to be ready, we will need to continue on that path.

It is critical to our mission that our pledges be renewed as they expire and that we indeed attract new parishioners and new pledges. After a lengthy period, we are making progress toward our goal of the new church. If your pledge has been completed, **please** renew it for another one, two, or three years.

If you have not yet made a pledge, now is the time to do so. We need you to be as enthusiastic as all our other pledge donors, many of whom have already renewed their three-year pledges!

We are on the edge and ready to move forward.

Again, for those of you who have been so generous in your support of our goal, your continued support is very much appreciated.

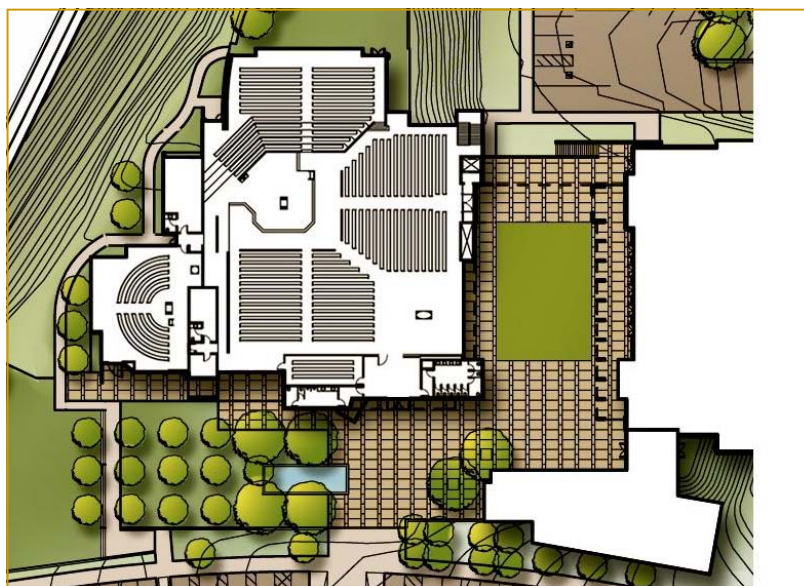
For all that has been—“Thank You!”

For all that will be—“Yes!”

Please continue to pray for our success and please continue to support the mission and ministry of Jesus for this time and this place in St. Thomas More Parish.

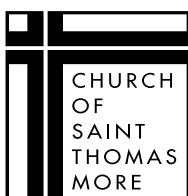
May the Lord who has begun this good work in us bring it to fulfillment!

—Mr. Bill Ipsen, Capital Campaign Chairperson



*To view the entire collection of architectural sketches,
visit the Parish website (www.stmoside.org), then
click on “Our New Church”*

If you have any questions or would like more information,
please contact Chris Smith,
Director of Stewardship and Development
760.758.4100 x120 or chriss@stmoside.org



1450 SOUTH MELROSE DRIVE • OCEANSIDE, CA 92056 • 760.758.4100
WWW.STMOSIDE.ORG • PARISHOFFICE@STMOSIDE.ORG

GAME DAY

January 26, 2008

Lower Level from 11:30 - 2:30

Come and bring your Game Friends and
Your Favorite Game.

OR

Come and Join New Friends to
Play a Fun Game

Hors d'oeuvres, Lunch, and Desert will be served

Opportunity Drawing and Door Prizes

Tickets on sale after Mass on Jan. 12, 13, 18 & 19

\$16 per person

Reservations and/or Information

Call Wendy 758-3226