

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 27, 2008 • Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
 Friday, February 1

Ash Wednesday - February 6
 Masses at 8:15am, 12:00pm, 5:30pm and 7:30pm
 Soup Supper 5:30-7:30pm

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*Inserts: Parish Calendar; Catholic Update;
 Women's Guild Day of Recollection*

Pastor's Column

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

Fr. Ken Kieffer – Resting In Peace



This Thursday, January 31, will mark the first anniversary of Fr. Ken's death. In the past year, I know that all of us have had a variety of moments and situations in which we have experienced his absence and grieved his loss.

His exit of this world and his journey Home created an empty space in our hearts and in our lives. It is never easy to lose a loved one, but, because we are people of faith, we are mindful that one day we will be reunited in the fullness of the presence of God. Our faith provides hope and encouragement to move forward as we continue on our earthly pilgrimage when a loved ones dies.

Fr. Henri Nouwen, once said, *"Each time that we experience the death of a loved one, just a little bit more of eternity breaks into our own existence."*

Fr. Ken's death took place on the anniversary of my Ordination, and I see his death on that date as gift of serendipity given to me to strengthen me as I move into my "senior years."

Mike and Natalie Provinse, two brother priests of Fr. Ken's

(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 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
Jan 28	Project Linus Coffee
Jan 31	Parent Meeting for Eucharist Preparation
Feb 1	Parish Potluck

The Month Ahead

Feb 3	Liturgy of the Word for Children at 8:30am and 10:30am Masses
Feb 6	Ash Wednesday (day of fast and abstinence) Masses at 8:15am, 12:00noon, 5:30pm, 7:30pm
Feb 10	RE.A.CH classes, including high school
Feb 16-Mar 2	New Orleans Trip
Feb 17	New Member Reception
Feb 24	RE.A.CH classes, including high school
Feb 25	Lenten Day of Recollection sponsored by Women's Guild and Spirited Seniors

The Year Ahead

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 <i>Spring Sing—Ecumenical Celebration of Song</i>
Apr 24	Spirited Seniors Present <i>Music by Emmalyn</i>
Apr 26	Women's Prayer Breakfast
June 20	Ninth Annual Golf Classic/Evening Festivities

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 27 (67)
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Isaiah 8:23-9:3
 Psalm 27
 1 Corinthians 1:10-13,17
 Matthew 4:12-23

Monday, January 28 (317)
Thomas Aquinas, priest,
doctor of the church
 2 Samuel 5:1-7,10
 Psalm 89:20-22,25-26
 Mark 3:22-30

Tuesday, January 29 (318)
 2 Samuel 6:12b-15,17-19
 Psalm 24:7-10
 Mark 3:31-35

Wednesday, January 30 (319)
 2 Samuel 7:4-17
 Psalm 89:4-5,27-30
 Mark 4:1-20

Thursday, January 31 (320)
John Bosco, priest
 2 Samuel 7:18-19,24-29
 Psalm 132:1-5,11-14
 Mark 4:21-25

Friday, February 1 (321)
 2 Samuel 11:1-4a,5-10a,13-17
 Psalm 51:3-7,10-11
 Mark 4:26-34

Saturday, February 2 (524)
The Presentation of the Lord
 Malachi 3:1-4
 Psalm 24:7-10
 Hebrews 2:14-18
 Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Sunday, February 3 (70)
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Zephaniah 2:3,3:12-13
 Psalm 146
 1 Corinthians 1:26-31
 Matthew 5:1-12a

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 26, 5:00pm
 James Tutino ☩

Sunday, January 27, 8:30
 Katherine Schmitz

Sunday, January 27, 10:30am
 J. C. Gonzalez ☩

Tuesday, January 29, 8:15am
 Mary Norelli ☩

Wednesday, January 30, 8:15am
 Anna Martin

Thursday, January 31, 8:15am
 Fr. Kenneth Kieffer, OFM ☩

Friday, February 1, 8:15am
 Kevin Cline ☩

Saturday, February 2, 5:00pm
 George Duarte ☩

Sunday, February 3, 8:30am
 Steve Kremenik ☩

Sunday, February 3, 10:30am
 Lucille Gengler ☩

Prayer List

Jay Ahmann
 Michael Ainis
 Charlotte Atkinson & family
 Patricia Barbour
 Carl Bechtold
 Edward Bednarz
 Cindra Bell
 Tom Belprez
 The Benton Family
 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
 The Jakob Family
 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
 The Mitkevich Family
 Nancy Moore
 Judith Nichols
 R. Northrup
 Patricia O'Gaffney
 Ana Patterson
 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
 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)

Religious Order, and I were present at his moment of death. For the five of us, it was a very moving experience that touched us deeply. For me, personally, I felt that his spirit and the love of his pastoral ministry were passed on to me as a gift to strengthen me in my pastoral responsibilities.

Fr. Ken's "retirement" was a complete commitment to pastoral ministry, to the people of St. Thomas More, and to so many other people throughout the wider community. He was a shining example to younger priests, inspiring them, inspiring me, that the "best is yet to come," even after and during retirement.

As I celebrate my 33rd anniversary of Ordination this Thursday, I will remember Fr. Ken, toast him, and once again thank him for all that he has done for all of us, and for me. Please join me in that toast and in that prayer!

Eternal Rest grant unto Fr. Ken Kieffer, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace! Amen.

Fr. Mike

Lent Is Just Around the Corner!

This is one of those years when Easter comes early. The traditional date of Easter is the first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox, putting Easter on March 23 for 2008. That means Ash Wednesday will be on February 6.

Masses for Ash Wednesday will be at 8:15am, 12:00pm, 5:30pm, and 7:30pm. Our traditional soup supper is scheduled from 5:30-7:30pm.

Watch your mailbox for the Lent-Triduum-Easter schedule with full details on this important liturgical season.

New Member Reception

Sunday, February 17 • 12:00pm

We are hosting a new member welcome reception for those who have joined our parish family since July 2007. Invitations have been mailed to you and we look forward to meeting you at this special luncheon!

If you are an existing member and were unable to attend our last reception, you are welcome to join us for this one.

Please call our parish office to RSVP by February 8 with a "yes" or "no" at 758-4100 x154.

*For more details, please contact:
Louise Briseno at 726-4496 or
parishoffice@stmoside.org*

COMING SOON!

Exciting Details and Surprises for
Our St. Thomas More 2008 Golf Classic!
Save the Date ~ Friday, June 20, 2008



Thanks, Y'all!

Thank you so much for extending yourselves to our special guest, Fr. Michael Jacques, the Pastor of St. Peter Claver Church in New Orleans, on the weekend of January 12 and 13!



Fr. Michael was so touched by the warm welcome you gave him, the excellence of all our choirs, and the quality of service of all of our liturgical ministers and sacristans.

Special thanks too, to all of you who came to the potluck dinner on Saturday. It was such fun, and we had a "full house"! Again, Fr. Michael was impressed by the quality and depth of your questions. He said he has not experienced another parish group that seemed to have such an understanding of their ongoing struggle in New Orleans and St. Peter Claver Parish.

I am also very grateful for the donations that have come in so far to enable us to purchase needed items as we return to work alongside the parishioners of St. Peter Claver in just a few short weeks. Please pray for our safety, that we will do good work and continue to bring renewed hope to our Sister-Parish friends!

—Sr. Maureen



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 the bulletin two weeks ago or on the information table on the Plaza and return your contribution by February 4. Thank you!

New Orleans Rebuilding Project 2008	
Your donation will allow STM volunteers traveling to New Orleans in February to purchase building supplies to help the families of St. Peter Claver Parish in their rebuilding and repair efforts.	
Thank you!	
1482 South Milliken Drive • Oceanside, CA 92038 760-763-4100 • 760-763-4185 fax • parishoffice@stmnew.org • www.stmoside.org	
Please make checks payable to: Church of St. Thomas More with memo "New Orleans Trip Building Supplies"	Name: _____ Phone: _____
Parish ID#: _____	
Envelopes may be returned by February 4 via the weekend collection, the Parish Office, or the mail. Amount Enclosed: \$ _____	

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.

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

Facing a Hospital Stay?

If you or someone you know is planning a hospital stay or ends up in the hospital, marking the "Catholic" box on the registration form ensures that the Diocesan Catholic Chaplain assigned to the hospital will know the patient is Catholic. You may also want to request a visit by the Catholic Chaplain. Most hospitals also have teams of ministers from local parishes who bring Holy Communion to Catholic patients.

When a Loved One Dies

Call the Parish Office first, before you call the funeral home.

Call anytime, night or day!

Our parish has a wonderful Bereavement Team that is available when a loved one dies. They are available to assist the family with many arrangements related to the funeral, which might include meeting with the family to pray, accompanying family members to the funeral home, helping to plan the funeral, and providing bereavement support afterwards.

In addition, those who like to plan ahead may meet with a Bereavement Team member to pre-plan preferences and place them on record, which can be a great help for children or other family members when the time comes.

If you have any questions, call Sr. Maureen at 758-4100 x131.

Flower Donation

We would like to gratefully acknowledge the contributions of:

Rose Kempf

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

In Memoriam



Please pray for the souls of:

Gloria B. Benton, who died on January 16. Her funeral was celebrated at Holy Cross Cemetery in San Diego. Please keep the family in your prayers.

Hans Jakob, who died on January 19. A private funeral service will be held on January 28. 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.*

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.

High School Youth Ministry

Next Meeting

Monday, January 28, 7:00-8:30pm

Join us on the lower level!

Sign ups for Steubenville San Diego (in July) have started..

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, FEBRUARY 1

8:45am - 7:30pm

Family Hour: 6:30 - 7:30pm

First Friday of February

Then the king will say to those on his right, "Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me."

Then the righteous 16 will answer him and say, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?"

And the king will say to them in reply, "Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me."

Then he will say to those on his left, "Depart from me, you accursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels." For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you gave me no welcome, naked and you gave me no clothing, ill and in prison, and you did not care for me."

Then they will answer and say, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison, and not minister to your needs?"

He will answer them, "Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me."

Matthew 25:34-45

Intention for the Day

That we may grow in our devotion for
the poor and the sick.



FISHY CHRISTIANITY

For this season of Ordinary Time, we have a new altar backdrop, the Christian symbol of the fish.

The fish was an early symbol of Christian faith that endures today as a sign of Christian faith.



The fish is thought to have been chosen by the early Christians for several reasons:

- the Greek word for fish (ICHTHUS), works nicely as an acrostic for "Jesus Christ, God's Son, Savior".
- the fish would not be an obvious Christian symbol to persecutors
- Jesus' ministry is associated with fish: he chose several fishermen to be his disciples and declared he would make them "fishers of men."

It is said that during the persecution of the early church, a Christian meeting someone new would draw a single arc in the sand. If the other person was a Christian, he or she would complete the drawing of a fish with a second arc. If the second person was not a Christian, the ambiguity of the half-symbol would not reveal the first person as a Christian.

The second fish symbol (right) is the ICHTHUS fish, with the Greek word for fish written out to emphasize the symbolic acrostic described above.



Although the word looks like IXOYE, the letters are from the Greek alphabet, so the "I" is actually an *iota*, the "X" is actually a *chi*, the "O" is actually a *theta*, the "Y" is an *upsilon*, and the "E" or "C" at the end is a *sigma*. Taking the first sound from each of these Greek letter names, we get the transliteration into our alphabet of ICHTHUS. (Iesous/Jesus, CHristos/Christ,

THEou/God, Uiou/Son, Soter/Savior). An acrostic is an arrangement of words in which the first letter of each word combines with the others to form a word or words or the alphabet.

Today, when Christians (in the West) do not need to worry about persecution, the Christian fish symbol often has "Jesus" written inside or includes a cross symbol.

The fish is also a symbol of baptism, since a fish is at home in the water.

Related Bible Verses

As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. "Come, follow men," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." At once they left their nets and followed him. (Mark 1:16-18)

And they said to him, "We have here only five loaves and two fish." (Matthew 14:17)

And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. (Luke 5:6)

And he said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some. So they cast, and now they were not able to draw it in because of the multitude of fish." (John 21:6)



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?

Little Books

LENT

This Lenten series provides six-minute meditations on the Passion according to John, beginning Sunday, February 3rd.

In this form of prayer, we take a Scripture passage and spend some quiet time reading it with God at our side. We listen for God to speak to us through the words, guiding us to thoughts and reflections that sometimes seem to come from nowhere. People are often surprised how easy it is to pray this way.

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

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

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.

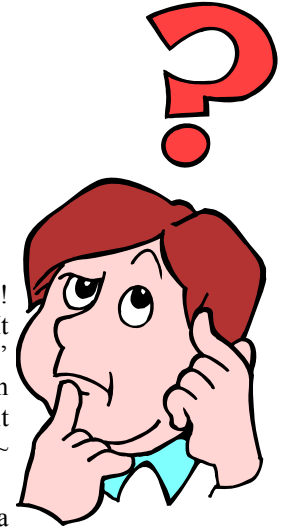
This course is offered at different times and places throughout the diocese. The good news is that one is starting in north county at St. Mary's School in Escondido. It begins February 2 and involves some Saturdays and Thursday evenings until April 12.

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

Kid's Tough Questions

"Is it okay to lie if the truth will hurt someone's feelings?"

- "There really are absolute truths! Exodus 20:16 tells us not to lie. It doesn't say, 'Do not lie, unless...'. Teach your kids to speak the truth in love and to trust God when it comes to doing the right thing." ~ *Kandi Elliott*
- "It's always better to deal with a specific situation than to give a general answer to a general question. If we paint too broadly, we don't really help where the 'rub' is. Kids don't need platitudes; they need real help for real tough situations." ~ *Karl Bastian*
- "God tells us we're not supposed to lie. Sure, we don't want to hurt people, but the truth is if you truly love and care for someone, there's a way to tell the truth." ~ *Lori Valenzisi*
- "As a rule, lying is wrong. However, sometimes we tell the hurtful truth when we could just not say anything, or say something truthful that doesn't hurt. 'Those jeans make you look really fat' is better not said. How about, 'That shirt is your color for sure!'" ~ *Marlene LeFever*
- "What a great thing when a child is afraid to hurt a friend's feelings! Celebrate the child for being a great friend—and tell the child that part of being a great friend means telling the truth, even when it's difficult." ~ *Amy Dolan*



Today is a **RE.A.CH** day!
Reaching Hearts by Ministry of Children

Thanks, parents, for completing your portion of the Progress Report and returning it today!

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

Peanut Butter and Jelly Update:

2008 GOAL: 365 jars
TOTAL to date: 169 jars



Stewardship & Development

Serve God's People

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

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP Today and Everyday . . .

The watchword today is “immediately.” Peter and Andrew, James and John all respond *immediately* to the call of Christ. May I be as open to the Lord’s call and as ready to use my talents in His service as those first disciples were!

—*Stewardship by the Book, S. Hueckel*

We hear a lot about goals and new resolutions during the first days and month of each year. Typically, many folks decide this is the best time of year to *really* make their life better.

Equally typical is the fact that most people break their New Year’s resolutions almost immediately, lose heart and go right back to previous habits.

A goal is worthy only if it heads one in the right direction. And studies have shown that people who set goals are more successful than people who don’t. Whether it is saving money, losing weight or exercising more, goals encourage people to improve.

The best goal any of us could ever have is to know God better, and thus be better Christian stewards. By starting each day with prayer and the positive connection with God, we can tackle our goals and make ourselves — and our world — better.

We may not be Christ, and therefore not perfect, but we can still strive to be the best we can. That is what God asks of us. And we are asked to do it now! If we miss reaching our goal today, start again tomorrow. . . and the next day or week or month.

Don’t give up on your goals. And especially don’t give up on answering ‘Yes’ to God. The more we try and the more we pray, the better life becomes. This can happen one step, or even one inch, at a time. Small steps are better than no steps at all.

This doesn’t mean our lives will be trouble-free, but everything else will seem insignificant compared to the indescribable wonder of knowing the Lord and His love for you.

Winston Churchill said “It is always wise to look ahead, but difficult to look further than you can see.”

Trust that the Lord will guide your way each day. Take a look around you and see what needs to be done.

In what way(s) can you be of help? In what way(s) *will* you be of help? We have a myriad of ministries at St. Thomas More in which we can make a very positive difference in our world.

Additionally, we are building a Church! If you haven’t already come forward to help with that project, now is the time.

Pray about where your time, talent and resources should be used right now. God asks us to make each day count.

***We should travel light and live simply.
Our enemy is not possessions, but excess.***

—*John Stott*

Parish “Build-Out” Moves Forward!

Last weekend our Capital Campaign Chairperson, Bill Ipsen, gave an update on our current status and future plans. We had TV monitors in the upper and lower levels, with a preview of our current Church footprint.

- If you were not at STM last weekend, please stop by the information table for a copy of the update on “***Our Journey Into The Future . . . Together***” flyer, also available on our Parish website by clicking on that title, then click on *Campaign Update Flyer 1/20/08*.
- A slideshow of the Church footprint is available on our website (www.stmoside.org) Click on the top left of page “*Our New Church*” photo!
- The area surrounding the Church renderings is ‘filler’ and represents landscaping, parking, walkways, etc. It does NOT represent stairs!!!
- The seating plan for our new Church has increased from the original plan for 1,000. We are now looking at seating for 1,100 to 1,200 people.
- The Church building is now one story and is 90 feet closer to the parking lot for easier access.

For more information please contact:

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



Collection for Week of: January 19/20, 2008

Number of Registered Households:	961
Envelopes	\$ 8,449.47
Children's Envelopes	0.00
Plate	1,450.00
Total	\$ 9,899.47

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

Retirement Fund for Religious



Envelopes were attached to the bulletin at the beginning of January 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!

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. Next date: Friday, February 1.

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



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>*

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.

Reporting Sexual Abuse

In accordance with the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, the Diocese of San Diego has published a brochure that includes information regarding sexual misconduct by Church ministers and how to report any complaints. This brochure, entitled *Sexual Misconduct: Preventing, Responding, Reporting*, is available in our pamphlet rack on the lower level of the Parish Center.

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



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 \$CRIP table after weekend Masses or the Parish Office during the week. Thank you!

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

C110 Catechism of the Catholic Church Course in San Marcos—The San Diego Diocesan Institute is offering this survey of the Catechism as introduction to foundational elements of Catholicism. Meets Mondays, January 28-March 3 (no class February 18), 6:00-9:00pm, at St. Mark's Parish Center in San Marcos. Taught by Dominic Camplisson, M.T.S. For more information, contact 858-490-8212.

Theology on Tap for Young Adults in San Marcos—*Getting to Know Pope Benedict XVI* is the topic for the winter series, continues on Tuesdays from January 29-February 12, 7:00-8:30pm at Acapulco Restaurant and Cantina, 1020-50 West San Marcos Blvd., San Marcos. For more information, contact Carrie Giebel at 858-590-8260 or cgiebel@diocese-sdiego.org.

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 at St. Thomas More 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!

Divine Mercy Conference at Pala Mission—February 1-2. Bishop Salvatore J. Cordileone will celebrate the opening Mass at 7:00pm Friday, February 1, followed by a free concert with Mary Rotell and Donna Lee at the San Diego Center of Mission San Antonio De Pala, 3015 Mission Rd., Pala (registration not needed Friday). On Saturday, doors open 8:00am with a closing Mass at 6:00pm. For more information, call 619-276-6637.

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—*Living, Working, and Praying...for the Love of God*, February 1-3. At a weekend for women of all ages, uncover the passion that will

fill our lives with energy and ultimately, with love. Take time to discover the people, places and dreams that create a life fully lived in God's bounty. Facilitated by Linda Mellon, Co-director of the Franciscan Covenant Program and Certified Spiritual Director, and Jane O'Shaughnessy, RSCJ, of the Spiritual Ministry Center in San Diego. For more information, contact 757-3659 or www.sanluisrey.org.

Lenten Mini-Retreat at Mission San Luis Rey in Oceanside—Prepare for the Lenten journey toward Easter at an Ash Wednesday mini-retreat, *Living-Dying-Rising: the Paschal Mystery*, February 6, 9:00am-4:00pm, at Mission San Luis Rey's Retreat Center in Oceanside. Retreat Center Director and Franciscan Br. Mark Schroeder will guide retreat participants through a day of prayer and reflection in preparation of Lent. A Mass will be celebrated a noon at the Parish, and a simple lunch will be provided afterwards. For more information, contact 757-3659 or www.sanluisrey.org.

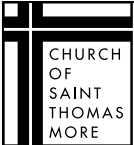
Quiet Day Retreat at Mission San Luis Rey in Oceanside—Rejuvenate yourself and enjoy solitude by keeping the balance between activity and contemplation in your life. Spend a quiet day at the Retreat Center on Monday, February 18, 9:00am-4:00pm. You will have time on your own for reflection in the gardens, chapel, or anywhere amid the 56 acres of this beautiful retreat location. Enjoy nature or catch up on some much-needed rest. Optional. Yoga and 15-minute neck and shoulder massage. For more information, contact 757-3659 or www.sanluisrey.org.

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 services. Please call Chris McAdams of C & M Publications at 951-683-0608. Thank you.