

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

February 24, 2008 • Third Sunday of Lent

Please continue praying for our New Orleans team!

Check the parish website—www.stmoside.org
then click on Pastoral Staff/Ministries, then Sr. Maureen
for daily updates.

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Pastor's Column

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

Faith and Family – Gifts To Be Nurtured

FAITH

By way of a fortune cookie, at the end of a meal in a restaurant, one of the best definitions of faith came my way: *“Faith is the bird that feels the light and begins to sing while the dawn is still dark.”*

Faith is a gift given to us from God to see the world not as the world sees itself, but as God sees it.

We are called to be people of light in a world that is often filled with darkness.

This gift of faith doesn't just maintain itself. It must be nurtured if it is to grow and deepen into a way of life.

The Season of Lent provides an opportunity to tend to our faith. Through the disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we have significant moments in which we can “grow the faith.”

Why are we called to prayer?

Because we do not pray enough! There are 1,440 minutes in the course of every day. How many of those minutes are spent in

(Continued on page 3)

Calendar Highlights

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

The Week Ahead

- Feb 16-Mar 2 New Orleans Trip
 Feb 24 Liturgy of the Word for Children at 8:30am Mass
 Feb 24 RE.A.CH classes, including high school
 Feb 25 Lenten Day of Recollection sponsored by
 Women's Guild and Spirited Seniors
 Feb 29 Knights of Columbus Fish Dinner
 Stations of the Cross
 Mar 1 ~~Women's Prayer Breakfast~~
 (rescheduled to Apr 26)
 Mar 2 Liturgy of the Word for Children at 8:30am and
 10:30am Masses

The Month Ahead

- Mar 9 Spirited Seniors travel to Rolling Hills Covenant
 Church to see "Pageant of Our Lord"
 Mar 9 RE.A.CH classes, including high school
 Mar 16 Palm Sunday of Our Lord's Passion
 Mar 20 Holy Thursday—Mass at 6:00pm
 Mar 21 Good Friday—Liturgies at 12:00pm and 7:00pm
 Mar 22 Holy Saturday—Mass at 8:00pm
 Mar 23 Easter Sunday—Masses at 6:30am, 8:30am, and
 10:30am
 Mar 29-30 Women's Guild Bake Sale
 Mar 30 RE.A.CH classes

The Year Ahead

- 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
 Apr 26 Women's Guild Fashion Show
 June 14 Women's Guild Installation Luncheon

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
Col. Kathleen Henderson
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
Capt. Thomas Zeff, USAF

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

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

Readings for the Week Ahead

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

Sunday, February 24 (28)

Third Sunday of Lent

Exodus 17:3-7

Psalm 95

Romans 5:1-2,5-8

John 4:5-42

Monday, February 25 (237)

2 Kings 5:1-15b

Psalms 42:2-3;43:3-4

Luke 4:24-30

Tuesday, February 26 (238)

Daniel 3:25,34-43

Psalm 25:4-5b,6,7bc,8-9

Matthew 18:21-35

Wednesday, February 27 (239)

Deuteronomy 4:1,5-9

Psalm 147:12-13,15-16,19-20

Matthew 5:17-19

Thursday, February 28 (240)

Jeremiah 7:23-28

Psalm 95:1-2,6-9

Luke 11:14-23

Friday, February 29 (241)

Hosea 14:2-10

Psalm 81:6c-11b,14,17

Mark 12:28-34

Saturday, March 1 (242)

Hosea 6:1-6

Psalm 51:3-4,18-21b

Luke 18:9-14

Sunday, March 2 (31)

Fourth Sunday of Lent

I Samuel 16:1b,6-7,10-13a

Psalm 23

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 23, 5:00pm
 Ben Lucero ☩

Sunday, February 24, 8:30am
Missa Pro Populo

Sunday, February 24, 10:30am
 Joe & Lil Seufert ☩

Tuesday, February 26, 8:15am
 Eugene Masseth ☩

Wednesday, February 27, 8:15am
 Ann Buko

Thursday, February 28, 8:15a
 William Zambone ☩

Friday, February 29, 8:15am
 Robert Cossarek ☩

Saturday, March 1, 5:00pm
 Luther Crowell ☩

Sunday, March 2, 8:30am
Missa Pro Populo

Sunday, March 2, 10:30am
 Joe Coccaro ☩

Prayer List

Michael Ainis
 The Atkinson Family
 Patricia Barbour
 Carl Bechtold
 Edward Bednarz
 Cindra Bell
 Tom Belprez
 The Benton Family
 Joe Bozanich
 Janet Brown
 Ann Buko
 Carl Coleman
 James Coleman
 Barbara Colton
 Tom Connors
 Thomas Cornwell & family
 April Craft
 Deborah Darsey
 Linda Dossman
 Daphne Dunn
 James Echter
 The Fiore Family
 Larry Fisk
 Edmund Fredette
 Joe Garcia
 Bob Gardiner
 Lewis Garrett
 Rick Gonzalez
 Anita Hage
 The Harker Family
 Bud Hazlett
 Frank Hoerman
 Cynthia Horner
 The Jacob Family
 Bernie & Ginny Jaeger
 Sue Johnston
 Colleen Kaup
 Paul Kennedy
 Debbie Kinny
 Sr. Anne Kremenik
 Lillian Lachance
 The Lamelin Family
 Brandon LeBlanc
 Lois Leonard
 Jackie Lynn
 James MacArthur
 Ken Mauro
 Patrick McCarthy
 Nancy Moore
 Deacon Bob Mueller
 Margie Myers
 Judith Nichols
 R. Northrup
 Patricia O'Gaffney
 Tom Padilla, Sr.
 Ana Patterson
 Sylvia Perez
 Helen Pingtella
 Ante Pitesa
 Anne Post
 Bill Pulver
 Sr. Loyola Romey
 Dorothy Rouse
 Lynne Rumpf
 The Russo Family
 Marilyn Sinkez
 The Vernaci Family
 Lee Vincent
 Vanessa Vitiello-Koble
 Kevin Watson-Graff
 Lorie Whitmore

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

(Pastor's Column continued from page 1)

prayer? How many of those minutes are spent in connecting with God, the source of all that we are and all that we have?

Why are we called to fasting?

Because we live life in excess! Be it food, drink, recreation, shopping, time spent "just on me," or negative activities like gossiping, judging, condemning, ridiculing, etc., we live life in excess.

What things are we able to let go of, from which to fast, at least for awhile? And then when we feel the craving, the longing, the desire of that pleasure or activity, can we, in that moment, ask God to come in and fill that emptiness?

We fast in order to make room for God in our lives, to create ever greater space for God to come into our lives and to keep us focused and in the right direction, the direction that leads to God's Reign, and away from the things of this world which are all passing away right before our eyes.

Why do we give alms?

There will come a time in our lives when we will die and will have to give all that we are and all that we have back to God. There is no better time than now, to start getting ready, by giving alms.

Our closets are full, our garages are full, our storage units are full, our wallets and bank accounts are full. We are the richest nation on the face of the earth.

Giving alms now helps us to ready ourselves for the ultimate give-a-way!

And it provides for those who have less than us and are in need of the basic elements of life!

FAMILY

Faith is not just personal; it is also communal. We live our faith in community with our family, our parish family, and with the world around us.

A good way to celebrate faith in a family way is to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation here together, at St. Thomas More, on Sunday, March 2, at 4:00pm.

Our Communal Penance Services are always family-focused and family-centered.

I encourage and challenge every parish household to join in this Parish Lenten Communal Penance Service.

It is an opportunity for the entire family to come together in one Lenten activity, to get refocused, to be nourished, and to be refreshed.

God is closest to you in the members of your family! Do you see, hear, and feel God's presence?

Faith and family are gifts that need to be nurtured if they are to flourish.

Lent is the time to do so!

Now is the time!

See you Sunday, March 2, at 4:00pm!

F. Mike

ONE WEEK COUNTDOWN!

Details and Surprises for our
St. Thomas More 2008 Golf Classic
Coming Next Weekend!
Save the Date ~ Friday, June 20, 2008



Lenten Fish Dinners Every Friday of Lent

(No Dinner on Good Friday)

Serving Time: 5:30-6:30pm

Price: Adults one fish-\$6, two fish-\$7, three fish-really?

Children one fish-\$4

This dinner is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and their wives. Serving time should allow you adequate time to eat your dinner, socialize, and attend the Stations of the Cross. Feel free to bring your neighbors and friends. We promise friendly and smiling faces will serve you!

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 at St. Thomas More, including talks, Mass, lunch, and Stations of the Cross. All are welcome! Remember to turn in your forms

Update from New Orleans

Our team of volunteers is busy evaluating and getting started on repairs to homes of parishioners from St. Peter Claver Parish. Check the parish website (see page 1 for how) or the parish bulletin board on the lower level for daily updates.



We especially appreciate the prayers of our parish community and, in particular, those who have promised to pray the rosary for us each day.

Lenten Communal Penance Services

March 2	4:00pm	St. Thomas More, Oceanside
March 4	7:00pm	Nativity, Fairbanks Ranch
March 5	7:00pm	St. James, Solana Beach
March 6	6:30pm	Mission San Luis Rey, Oceanside
March 10	7:00pm	St. Margaret, Oceanside
March 11	6:30pm	St. Patrick, Carlsbad
March 12	7:00pm	St. Elizabeth Seton, Carlsbad
March 14	7:00pm	St. Mary Star of the Sea, Oceanside
March 17	6:30pm	St. Mark, San Marcos
March 18	6:30pm	St. Francis, Vista

Our Mission is to: worship God,

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

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

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

Liturgical Ministry: Contact Douglas Lynn at 758-4100 x140

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

Communion for the Homebound/Hospitalized: Contact Parish Office
Anointing of the Sick: Contact Parish Office

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

teach and live the Gospel of Jesus Christ,

Inquiry into the Catholic Faith: First and third Thursday evenings

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

Religious Education for Adults: Various times, September-May

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

Little Rock Scripture Study: Weekly sessions, morning or evening

High School Youth Ministry: Monday evenings

Middle School Youth Ministry: Two Monday evenings per month

Preparation for the Sacraments:

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

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

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

First Reconciliation: In home process begins in Level 1

First Communion: In home process begins after first reconciliation

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

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

and serve God's people in word and deed.

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

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

Annual Brother Benno's Food Drive

On the weekend of March 1-2, Deacon Tom will be in the parking lot with his truck to collect canned goods and non-perishable food items for Brother Benno's. This is our annual collection to help the poor and under-employed supplement their food budget. It not only assists the soup kitchen but also those whose paychecks do not last to the end of the month. In this season of alms giving, please be generous.

Interfaith Shelter Network Program

The Church of St. Thomas More and the First Presbyterian Church of Oceanside will jointly participate in this year's Interfaith Shelter Network Program from March 2-March 16. Twelve homeless people will be housed and fed at the First Presbyterian Church. Our parish will be responsible for paying for their breakfast and lunches. Donations may be made after the 8:30am and 10:30am Masses on March 2.

The Pageant of Our Lord Trip—Space Available!

The Senior Seniors trip still has room on the bus going to the Pageant of Our Lord performance at the Rolling Hills Covenant Church on March 9. Call Leah Stevens at 630-0788 or Joyce Frink at 724-8091 for your reservation. Cost is \$45 per person.

Welcome to Newly Registered Parishioners

Robert & Gail Carter

Jessica Johnson & family

Robert & Jodi Wojcik & family

In Memoriam:



Please pray for the soul of **Steven Vernaci**, who died on February 15. Steven is the son of Mary Vernaci. Please keep the Vernaci family in your prayers.

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

Middle School Youth Ministry



Monday February 25

7:00pm - Upper Level

What is Lent?

And don't miss the update on this year's

Middle School Retreat!

Bring a Friend!

Ron & Louise Briseno • 758-4100 x153 • www.stmoside.org/ym

High School Youth Ministry

Next Meeting

Monday, February 25, 7:00-8:45pm

Dating and Love: Relationships

For more information, call Gale at 726-7236

Women's Guild

Board Meeting—Monday, March 3, at 12:30pm at Germaine Wilmott's home to discuss plans for March 10 meeting and other events. Try to attend. RSVP to Germaine at 758-9949.

March Luncheon Meeting—Monday, March 10, at 11:00am. We will have speaker—Joan Jones, with a presentation on Bereavement Planning, followed by a delicious lunch. Cost will be \$7. Plan to come and join us. RSVP by March 7 to Mary Vernaci at 599-4386 or Germaine Wilmott at 758-9949.

2008 Annual Catholic Appeal

February 18, 2008

Our parish assessment for this year is \$34,000. All money raised over this assessment is returned to us for our Parish use. It will be directed toward our Operational Budget. Thank you to those who have responded to date!

Household returns: 23

Total pledged: \$3,057.50

Average gift: \$136.07

Materials were mailed to all registered households and are also available at the parish information table on the Plaza after weekend Masses and at the parish office during the week.

Liturgy & Music

Worship God

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



LOOKING BACK AND LOOKING FORWARD

Three years ago next weekend, I joined this faith community as your Director of Music and Coordinator of Liturgical Ministries. One of the first things I did was to organize my thoughts about music ministry as I envisioned it would be here at St. Thomas More. Looking back on the past years, they are holding up pretty well, and I share them with you again as we look forward to another year of making that joyful noise and praising God.

—Douglas Lynn

Music Ministry at the Church of St. Thomas More Is...

...God-centered

“Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!”

—Psalm 95:2 (NRSV)

...Inclusive

Everyone in the parish will be made to feel welcome to participate in the music ministry.

...Appropriate

Music presented as part of Mass will always be offered in support of the scripture appointed for the day or in support of the message of the homily. On other occasions, it will support the theme of or the reason for the gathering.

...Eclectic

Our parish is comprised of people who represent many parts of the cultural, religious, and social spectra of our community. It therefore follows that our ministry must be varied in order to reach as many of these different backgrounds as possible. While we will not be able to reach everyone all the time, we will make every effort to touch most of the people as often as practically possible.

Varying musical approaches will be used: including the use of vocalists and instrumentalists available from within the parish as well as, on occasion, guest

musicians from outside the parish who might be brought in to fulfill a specific need not available from within.

Varying musical styles and genres will be used: including music from different historical periods that we might both celebrate our music past and explore today's creativity; and music from other cultures and countries and in other languages as befits the global nature of our church (non-English-language pieces will always be translated).

...Loving

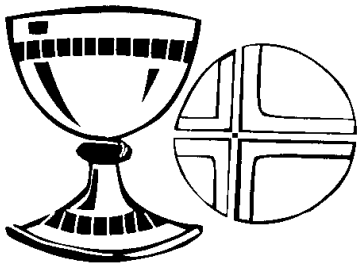
Choirs and other music ensembles are necessarily social entities, and as such they will provide a loving and supportive environment in which people involved in these groups might flourish spiritually and emotionally.

...Educational

Each person involved with the ministry will continually be presented with the “tools of the trade” that they may become more able to understand the craft of music-making. This teaching will be both overt in the form of instructional moments during rehearsals and more subtle using other behind-the-scenes methods.

...Ecumenical

Music provides the opportunity for churches to come together to celebrate our oneness in God in spite of ongoing and sometimes divisive differences. We will participate in musical activities that help to bridge this gap among Christian denominations whenever possible.



EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER TRAINING

The diocesan training for NEW Eucharistic Ministers will take place on Saturday, March 8, 2008 at **St. Thomas More Parish!**

If you are interested in joining the ranks at Sunday liturgies, weekday liturgies, or to minister to the sick at Tri-City Hospital or to the homebound, this is your opportunity.

This basic formation is required for all new ministers. Topics include: Theology and Celebration of the Eucharist, Ministry to the Sick, and The Role of the Extraordinary Minister.

Deadline for registration is February 29. Contact Douglas to sign up!



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?

RE.A.CH ing OUT!

This Lent, our faith community reaches out in solidarity with those in need by participating in Catholic Relief Services' *Operation Rice Bowl*. We put our faith into action to make a positive difference in the world through the traditional Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, while we learn about the joys and challenges in the lives of our sisters and brothers around the world.

How does *Operation Rice Bowl* make a difference in my faith community and around the world?

Prayer: Using the *Operation Rice Bowl* materials, we pray and reflect on the realities, challenges, and gifts of our neighbors around the world who struggle with hunger and poverty.

Fasting: *Operation Rice Bowl's* recipes for simple meals and fasting suggestions help us use this traditional Lenten practice to express solidarity with our brothers and sisters who do not have enough food.

Learning: Through educational resources and activities that highlight Catholic Relief Services' work overseas, we learn about the lives of people we may never meet. <http://orb.crs.org>

Giving: We put our faith into action by giving of our time and resources in a thoughtful manner. Since the program began in 1975, Operation Rice Bowl has raised millions of dollars to assist our brothers and sisters around the world.

Everyone in our STM RE.A.CH program was given a Rice Bowl on the first Sunday of Lent.



Other parishioners are encouraged to participate. Materials are on the table outside the Faith Formation Office.

The Operation Rice Bowl Lenten Prayer

*Good and Gracious God,
You who are full of compassion,
Help us to show compassion towards others this Lent.
During this Holy Season we:
Pray that we may be transformed,
Fast in solidarity with those who are hungry,
Learn to live with less, and
Give so that others may live.
May we join in solidarity as one human family
and love one another as you love each of us. Amen.*

Today is a **RE.A.CH** day!

Progress Reports are still welcome!

Do you have your cross in your pocket?

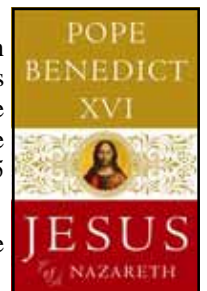
Father Mike's Bookies !



The Life of Thomas More, by Peter Ackroyd, is our next book for discussion on April 2. As you are reading, feel free to email Fr. Mike with questions or ideas you would like him to address or the group to discuss.

The fourth, and final book in this year's discussion series is *Jesus of Nazareth* by Pope Benedict XVI. You are welcome to begin this book before the June 25 discussion.

Copies of both books are available on top of the file cabinet outside the Faith Formation Office.



Looking for Information on the Catholic Faith?

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

For information, call Bob Taylor at 630-4589.

Peanut Butter and Jelly Update:

2008 GOAL:	365 jars
TOTAL to date:	198 jars



A great way to give alms to the poor!

Stewardship & Development

Serve God's People

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

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

The Requirement

When Jesus asked the Samaritan woman for a drink of water, He opened the door for a life-changing relationship with Him. Scripture says her testimony also drew many others to Him.

We must be ready to respond whenever and wherever the Lord speaks to us. This means we need to be prepared to change our lives, and put our faith into action. Be prepared for a change in your comfort zone. It will feel good!

The story is told of a headmistress of a boarding school who used to say, "Don't go around with a Bible under your arm if you don't sweep under the bed." She was looking for a genuine faith, which means a faith that is practiced. There wasn't room for any spiritual talk coming out of a messy room, so to speak.

During Jesus' three years as an itinerant rabbi He knew what it was to be weary, hungry and homeless. The common people were glad to hear His message, but the religious elite could not stand Him. Jesus was often misquoted, misunderstood, misrepresented, misjudged and had every reason to feel lonely in the world of men, but it was thus that He "earned" and demonstrated for us the meaning of obedience—through the things that He suffered.

To walk with Jesus is to walk the Way of the Cross. If the cross we are asked to take up is not presented to us in the form of heroic action of some kind, martyrdom, dragons or labyrinths or even "ministry"—at least something that looks spiritual—are we to conclude that He has waived the requirement?

He never waives the requirement.

—Elisabeth Elliot, The Path of Loneliness



Christian stewardship is a lifetime requirement. The purpose of our lives to do what Jesus asks of us. There are opportunities to use our talents on a daily basis, no matter how insignificant they may seem. Let there be no mistake about this!

Little seeds are sown in our lives all the time. How we water and cultivate these seeds is entirely up to us. It is that *free will* thing again! Remember that little seeds grow into better things!

If we get stuck in the rut of thinking our gifts of time, talent and treasure need to be perfect, we will miss many an opportunity that God has planted squarely in front of us.

When we do small things with love we can make a big difference in the world and lives of others. When the temptation to gossip comes knocking, stop and think of a way to perform an act of kindness instead. Then do it. Set a good example for others.

*Little seeds grow into better things;
They just need water!*

TOWERS OF FAITH

Future Support and Estate Planning Options

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Thank you to all those who have come forward!

2007 Retirement Fund for Religious

\$3,648.58

Collection for Week of: February 16/17, 2008

Number of Registered Households:	961
Envelopes	\$ 7,310.15
Children's Envelopes	0.00
Plate	1,195.00
Total	\$ 8,505.15

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

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, March 7.

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

Holy Thursday Dinners

It is a tradition in our Parish on Holy Thursday to have dinners in Parishioners' homes after the liturgy. Loaves of bread and bottles of wine are blessed after Mass for consumption at these dinners. We need "Hosts" who provide the setup in their home, and "Guests" who will be assigned to those homes to bring a dish to share. Host families determine the number of guests they can accommodate and if their home is suitable for children. This is a random assignment of Guests to Host homes. This event is not for Host homes who have pre-planned dinner guests invited. This is meant as a way to meet new fellow parishioners as well as extend the blessings and meaning of this holy night. Sign ups to be either a Host Home or Guest will take place after each Mass the weekends of February 23-24, March 1-2, and March 8-9. The last day to sign up will be Sunday, March 9, after the 10:30am Mass. If you would like more information, call Henny Jocelyn at 726-1177 or Lisa Reaves at 945-3212.

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.

Little Rock Bible Studies

St. Paul's Letter To The Romans


Starting March 26, 9:00am and March 27, 7:00pm

The letter to the church at Rome is unquestionably the most important of Paul's letters and "is to many the most important text in the New Testament itself."

The church of Rome was not founded by Paul as the churches of Galatia, Philippi, and Corinth to mention a few, but this lengthy letter to Romans is one of seven undisputed letters of Paul's.

Why did Paul write his letter to the Romans? There are varying scholarly points of view which will be examined during this course. We hope to come to know the author's purpose "to clarify, and abridge, defend his thesis, and recount history."

If interested, please plan to join us. Any questions, please contact Masako Streling 295-2594 or mstr0619@cox.net.



**St. Thomas More
 Vehicle Donation Program**

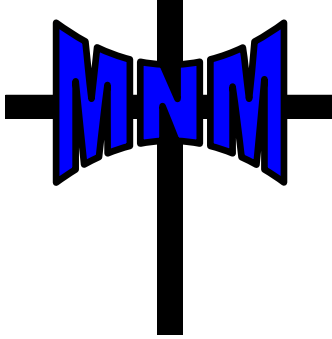
Do you have a vehicle you want to donate?
 Call the Parish Office at 758-4100 x100

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>*



**MONDAY
 NIGHT
 MASS**

**March 3
 7:00pm**

Mass will be celebrated by

**Auxiliary Bishop
 Salvatore Cordileone**

Diocese of San Diego

We will be collecting "New"
 men's & women's socks for
 "Stand Up for Kids" a homeless teen day shelter in
 Oceanside.

**For more information please contact Ron Briseno
 at 758.4100 x153 or ronb@stmoside.org**

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!

News from the Larger Church

Spirituality Presentations at St. Patrick's Parish in Carlsbad—Three evenings of Celtic Spirituality with the Gospel of John, presented by Michael Reardon and Patrick Lane. Monday, February 25—The Spirituality of St. Patrick, Tuesday, February 26—The Spirituality of St. John, and Wednesday, February 27—Performance of St. John's Gospel, all at 7:00pm. St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 3821 Adams St., Carlsbad.

Marriage Encounter Weekend—Have a good marriage? Want a great one? Reach for the stars together on a World Wide Marriage Encounter Weekend, February 29-March 2. Call to register or ask questions, 858-513-1099.

St. Patrick's Day Celebration in San Diego—The annual St. Patrick's Celtic Mass celebrating the Feast of St. Patrick will be held on Friday, March 14, at Our Mother of Confidence Church, 3131 Governor Dr., San Diego, at 6:00pm. All are welcome; "*Cead Mile Failte.*" For more information, contact 858-453-0222.

Get Rejuvenated! at Mission San Luis Rey in Oceanside—Rest, read, or just relax at the next "Quiet Day," Monday, March 17, sponsored by Mission San Luis Rey, 4050 Mission Avenue in Oceanside. Check-in at 9:00am, or later, and spend the next seven hours (until 4:00pm) escaping the hectic pace of everyday life or catching up on your sleep in your own private room. Take some time to wander the Mission grounds, sit in the chapel or the gardens, and enjoy the beauty and serenity of your surroundings. An optional stretch class and a 15-minute massage are also available. \$20-\$25 per person includes lunch. Please pre-register by calling 757-3659.

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.

Young Adult Leadership Conference in San Diego—Thursday, April 3, 9:00am-3:00pm, for Pastors and Parish Leaders. The conference will be held at the Diocesan Pastoral Center located at 3888 Paducah Drive, San Diego. The fee is \$30 for the day (includes handouts and lunch). To register, call Sue Doris at 858-490-8232.

Whispering Winds 26th Annual Dinner Dance Gala and Auction in San Diego—*For Everything there is a Season...A Time to Laugh...A Time to Dance* is the theme of the event benefitting Whispering Winds Catholic Conference Center on Saturday, April 5, 5:00-11:30pm, at the Westin Horton Plaza, San Diego. Early Bird Reservations (postmarked by March 8) are \$150 per person. For details or reservations, call (619) 494-1479.

Catholic Cruise to the Mexican Riviera—Come and sail away on a 7-Night Catholic Mexican Riviera Cruise with Father Herbert

Burke, May 25 to June 1, 2008 on the *Carnival Pride* out of Long Beach, CA. Ports of Call: Puerto Vallarta, Mazatlan, and Cabo San Lucas. Prices begin at \$1,626.92 for two passengers, which includes all port fees and taxes. Daily Mass and rosary offered. Deposits of only \$50 per person will reserve your cabin. Space is limited. For further information or to register, contact Doug or Eileen at 860-399-7776/dpayttc@aol.com.

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.

Padre Pio Devotions in San Diego—will be held at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish on the first Monday of each month. Rosary begins at 6:35pm with Mass at 7:00pm. More information? Call 619-697-5958.

Marriage in trouble?—Try Retrouvaille. For information and dates, call 951-259-9474.

Hospice Volunteers Needed in North County—The Elizabeth Hospice serves all of North County; volunteering will be in your local community. Training is offered several times each year, and classes are taught by Hospice professionals. There is no charge. For details, contact one of our Volunteer Coordinators at 737-2050.

Pray for Life in Carlsbad—Please join us as we pray for an end to abortion in our community. North County parishioners meet the third Monday of every month from 10:00-10:30am to peacefully pray the rosary in front of the Carlsbad Planned Parenthood Clinic. The clinic is located at 1820 Marron Rd. (in the shopping center just west of Plaza Camino Real Mall). For more information, contact Jahna at 586-6356.

Catholic Radio in San Diego—El Sembrador Ministries has begun airing Catholic radio programming on KSON AM 1240. The mostly Spanish language programming is broadcast 24 hours/day, Monday through Saturday.

Ignatian Volunteer Corps—Are you 50 or over? Semi-retired? Eager to "give something back"? The San Diego Region of the Jesuit-sponsored IGNATION VOLUNTEER CORPS offers you the opportunity to work with the poor two days a week, grow deeper in your Christian faith through reflection and prayer in the Ignatian tradition and meet monthly with other IVC members and a spiritual guide. For more information contact Margi Carroll, Regional Director at 619-881-9509 or Pat Doyle Regional Coordinator at 858-751-0900. For national website visit www.ivcusa.org.



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 002/15/08

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

Pastoral Council Committees

Faith Formation & Evangelization Rory Griffin 414-3939

Religious Education (Adults)..... Bret Schanzenbach 806-6722
 Small Church Communities Sondra Parks 598-1269
 Little Rock Bible Studies Masako Streling 295-2594
 Religious Education (Children) Kathleen Bell 758-4100 x110
 Liturgy of the Word for Children..... Cathy Meyer 598-7853
 Sacramental Preparation Kathleen Bell 758-4100 x110
 Mid. School Youth Ministry Ron & Louise Briseno 758-4100 x153
 High School Youth Ministry..... Jeff & Gale Gibbons 726-7236
 Evangelization Available
 Vocations Available
 RCIA/Adults Mario Diaz 758-7870
 RCIA/Children..... Jeanette Marriott 434-1818

Liturgy Available

Altar Linen Care Marge Gillen 639-1929
 Bereavement Facilitator Sr. Maureen Brown 758-4100 x131
 Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs..... Regina Aulisio 753-7234
 Environment & Art Kathy Quinn 722-7525
 Eucharistic Adoration John O'Donnell 598-6003
 Interior Design Team Pat & Phil Goscienski 732-1414
 Liturgical Ministries Douglas Lynn 758-4100 x140
 Liturgical Music Douglas Lynn 758-4100 x140
 Wedding Coordinator..... Geralyn Sandin 940-1553

Marriage & Family Life Kalei & Paul Mendiola 945-9042

FAMILIA Kalei & Paul Mendiola 945-9042
 Family Services Deacon Tom Goeltz 758-4100 x130
 Marriage Preparation Rev. Michael Ratajczak 758-4100 x100
 Deacon Tom Goeltz 758-4100 x130
 Parents & Tots Paul Mendiola 945-9042
 Widows & Widowers..... Helen Kuhn 727-8612

Parish Organizations & Events Available

Golf Tournament..... John Murphy 945-9935
 Historian Anne Marshall 727-2668
 Knights of Columbus Tom Dean 476-0431
 Library Chris James 598-5881
 Spirited Seniors..... Stella Leu  726-3869
 Vera Bayliss
 Women's Guild..... Germaine Wilmott 758-9949

Social Ministries Suzee Irwin 597-2706

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

Office Support..... Henny Jocelyn 758-4100 x100

Adopt-a-Project Joe Garcia 758-4100 x151
 Chair Set-Up..... Lorraine Doering 758-4100 x102
 General Support..... Henny Jocelyn 758-4100 x100
 Kitchen Overseer DeAnne Gonzales 598-8748
 STM Host Program..... Henny Jocelyn 758-4100 x100

Development Council Committees

Annual Catholic Appeal Katrina Waggoner 643-0604
 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..... 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

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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.