

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 11, 2009 • The Baptism of the Lord

Did You Know?

The economy continues to play havoc with our Operations Budget. Presently, income from the Offertory Collection is less than what we budgeted.

The "Did You Know?" Campaign will help us catch up.

Consider a special gift to St. Thomas More with the use of a "Did You Know?" envelope.

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Pastor's Column

Rev. Michael Ratajczak
michaelr@stmoside.org
760-758-4100 x100

Epiphany Quiz Answers

- How many Wise Men (Magi) visited Joseph, Jesus, and Mary in Bethlehem?**
Nobody knows. The tradition that there were three arises from the three gifts that were given to the Holy Family.
- Which King of Israel wanted to kill the baby who would grow to become the Messiah?**
Herod. Caesar Augustus was the chief of the Roman state. Quirinius was the Roman governor of Syria. Flavius Josephus was the Jewish historian who chronicled Herod's reign.
- Who wrote the text of the Epiphany carol "We Three Kings of Orient Are"?**
John Henry Hopkins Jr. The Rev. John H. Hopkins, an Episcopal priest, wrote the text of this hymn in 1857 for a Christmas pageant at the General Theological Seminary in New York City. Phillips Brooks, also an Episcopal priest, wrote the text to "O Little Town of Bethlehem" in 1865. Charles Wesley, the brother of John Wesley, wrote the text to "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" in (about) 1739. Father

(Continued on page 2)

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

Music Ministry: Contact Douglas Lynn at 758-4100 x140

Communion for the Homebound/Hospitalized:

Contact Parish Office at 758-4100 x100

Anointing of the Sick: Contact Parish Office

Matrimony:

Contact Parish Office a minimum of nine months in advance

*For further information, call Rev. Michael Ratajczak
at 758-4100 x100 or michaelr@stmoside.org.*

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 or kathleenb@stmoside.org.*

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, see page 10, or call Chris Smith
at 758-4100 x120 or chriss@stmoside.org.*

Calendar Highlights

Also check the Parish website for complete calendar information for the current month: www.stmoside.org, then select "Schedules and Calendars"

The Week Ahead

Jan 11 RE.A.CH Classes (at Church)

Pastor's Column—continued from page 1

Josef Mohr wrote the text to "Stille Nacht" ("Silent Night") in 1816.

4. The story of the visit of the Wise Men (Magi) appears in the Gospel according to whom?

Matthew. Mark begins his Gospel with John the Baptist and the baptism of Jesus. Luke jumps from the Nativity to when Jesus was twelve years old. John begins before the creation of the earth and then recounts Jesus' adult ministry.

5. Which of the following is not a kind of Three Kings Cake?

Kulich. La Rosca de Reyes is the Mexican Three Kings Cake. Galette des Rois is the French Three Kings Cake. Dreikonigskuchen is the German Three Kings Cake. Kulitch is a Russian Easter Cake.

6. Whose poem "The Journey of the Magi" begins "A cold coming we had of it, just the worst time of the year for a journey, and such a long journey"?

T.S. Eliot. William Butler Yeats wrote a short poem called "The Magi". O. Henry wrote a short story entitled "The Gift of the Magi". Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote a Christmas poem named "The Three Kings".

7. What is the origin and meaning of the word "epiphany"?

From the Greek, meaning "to show forth". The Greek components are epi- (meaning "on" or "to") and -phainein (meaning "to show").

8. What are/were the three traditional names assigned to the Wise Men (Magi)?

Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. Huey, Dewey, and Louie are Donald Duck's nephews. Peter, Paul, and James are all apostles. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were the three young Hebrew men cast into the fiery furnace by King Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 3:1-29).

9. "The Adoration of the Magi" was commissioned in the late 15th century as an altarpiece for the Augustinian monks of San Donato a Scopeto in Florence. It was unfinished and now hangs in the Uffizi Gallery in Florence. Who painted it?

Leonardo da Vinci. Andrea del Verrocchio was Leonardo's master and teacher. Sandro Botticelli painted "The Adoration of the Magi" for Santa Maria Novella in (about) 1476. Fra Angelico and Fra Filippo Lippi collaborated to produce a round (tondo) painting of the "The Adoration of the Magi" in the 1400's.

10. What is myrrh?

The dried sap of an African tree used anciently in embalming ointments and burned at funerals.

F. Mike

Readings for the Week Ahead

Sunday Year B; Weekday Year I
Readings online at www.usccb.org.

Sunday, January 11 (21)

Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 55:1-11

Isaiah 12:2-6 (Psalm)

1 John 5:1-9

Mark 1:7-11

Monday, January 12 (305)

Hebrews 1:1-6

Psalm 97:1,2b,6,7c,9

Mark 1:14-20

Tuesday, January 13 (306)

Hilary, bishop, doctor

Hebrews 2:5-12

Psalm 8:2ab,5-9

Mark 1:21-28

Wednesday, January 14 (307)

Hebrews 2:14-18

Psalm 105:1-4,6-9

Mark 1:29-39

Thursday, January 15 (308)

Hebrews 3:7-14

Psalm 95:6-11

Mark 1:40-45

Friday, January 16 (309)

Hebrews 4:1-5,11

Psalm 78:3,4bc,6c-8

Mark 2:1-12

Saturday, January 17 (310)

Anthony, abbot

Hebrews 4:12-16

Psalm 19:8-10,15

Mark 2:13-17

Sunday, January 18 (65)

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Samuel 3:3b-10,19

Psalm 40:2,4,7-10

1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a,17-20

John 1:35-42

Prayer List

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

The Ainis Family

Mary Alexander

Mary Baker

Patricia Barbour

The Bechtold Family

Cindra Bell

Tom Belprez

Katie Bergman

Nancy Bermudez

Gale Beyer

Beatrice Brooks & Family

Janet Brown

The Raymond Brown Family

James Coleman

Michael Patrick Contreras

Thomas Cornwell & Family

Shirley Darcy

Cecilia DeSimone

Linda Dossman

The Durette Family

Kathryn Ernst

The Fiore Family

Larry Fisk

The Fleeman/Hazlett Family

The Garcia Family

Bob Godley

Rick Gonzalez

Paula Gurrera

Anita Hage

Susan Hallahan

The Harker Family

Rita Harnacker

Barry Henwood

Cynthia Horner

Bernie & Ginny Jaeger

Sue Johnston

Joan Jones

Colleen Kaup

Paul Kennedy

Debbie Kinny

Dr. Robert Kladifko

George Kleekamp

Willis Koffroth

Sr. Anne Kremenik

Lillian Lachance

The Lamelin Family

Bernie Lanzrath

Brandon LeBlanc

Cassandra Loretto

Lauren Loretto

Loree Luther

Jackie Lynn

James MacArthur

Ken Mauro

Bob McWilliams

Carol Michael

Carroll Tom & Nona Miller

Nancy Moore

Margie Myers

Patric Nackla

The Narcy Family

Leticia Navarro

Nolberto Navarro

R. Northrup

Leticia & Patrick Ornelas

Lupe Casas Pelletier

Helen Pingtella

Anne Post

Otila Quiroz

Janet Raiman

Cecil Ramirez

Isabel Ramirez (daughter)

Isabel Ramirez (mother)

Dort Riley

Max Roceles

Sr. Loyola Romey

Dorothy Rouse

Rose Rowland

The Russo Family

Julie Shea

Nick Soltau

Ed Sox

Dorothy and Ray Staehr

Lisa & Kyle Valpoon

Robert Vasquez

Arnie Velasco

Lisa Vickonoff

The Vienna Family

Dominic Vienna, Jr.

Vanessa Vitiello-Koble

Kevin Watson-Graff

Marilyn Wesel

John Whitton

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:

1st Lt. Jeffrey Bauer, USMC

Pfc John Brandone

Pfc. Nicholas B. Dawson,

US Army

Lance Corporal Brandon Doyle,

USMC

MSGT Steve Gallegos, USMC

Col. Kathleen Henderson

Med. Staff Sgt. Jana Alexander

Madrid, USAF

Pvt. 2 Jess Phillips, US Army

Spec. Jared Ratzlaff, US Army

Julian Torres, USMC

Maj. Scott Wadle

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

WATER Liturgy & Music

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One Body Many Parts Faith Formation

Page 7

Modern Day Disciples Christian Stewardship

Page 8

Thank You!

Thank You!!

Thank You!!!

During the Christmas Season, a visitor, upon leaving Mass, said to me, "Father, I just love this Parish. There is so much joy here!"

I share this observation and compliment with each and everyone one of you who have helped to make our Advent/Christmas celebrations so special.

To paraphrase an often used analogy—"It takes a village..."—"It takes a parish..."

So many people have done so much in order to witness to Jesus through our celebrations and to create an environment of hospitality, warmth, and joy.

To each of you, for all that you have done, I say "Thank You!"

I choose not to mention names or groups, for the fear of leaving someone out by mistake.

You know who you are and what you have done—giving greater honor and glory to God.

I am humbled and proud to be your Pastor.

For all that has been, "Thank You!"
For all that will be, "Yes!"

F. Mike

—Rev. Michael Ratajczak,
Pastor

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 10, 5:00pm
George Martin Duarte, Jr. ☩

Sunday, January 11, 8:30am
Frank Hannon ☩

Sunday, January 11, 10:30am
Gene Frink ☩

Tuesday, January 13, 8:15am
Joceill & Darrell Cheek ☩

Wednesday, January 14, 8:15pm
Joe Coccaro ☩

Wednesday, January 14, 9:45am
Leo Kaup ☩
The Springs

Thursday, January 15, 8:15am
Steven Gormeli

Friday, January 16, 8:15am
Shirley Via ☩

Saturday, January 17, 5:00pm
Margaret Alvaro ☩

Sunday, January 18, 8:30am
Rita Priest ☩

Sunday, January 18, 10:30am
Olive Burke ☩



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



Eucharistic Adoration

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

Exposition of the Eucharist on First Fridays Next date: Friday, February 6.

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

Visit the Parish Website—www.stmoside.org

Click on *Our New Church* for updates on our build-out progress.

Click on *Ministries/Pastoral Staff* for information on a particular ministry, including liturgy and music, faith formation, youth groups, stewardship, and social justice.

A Warm Meal Goes a Long Way!

Many thanks to all who have stepped up to provide dinners for North County Solutions for Change homeless shelter! This ministry answers the call by Jesus to feed the hungry in our time and neighborhood. The NCSC women and children's shelter needs volunteers for meal preparation, servers, and donations (food and paper goods). Any help you can provide would be welcome!



St. Thomas More groups will be providing dinners on the following dates:

February 22, March 22, April 26, May 24,
June 28, July 26, August 23, September 27,
October 25, November 29, and December 27

To find out which dates still need food, delivery or monetary donations, please contact: Paul & Kalei Mendiola at 760-945-9042 or kaleiann@sbcglobal.net.

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 760-727-2668 or annemarshall@sbcglobal.net.



Welcome to Newly Registered Parishioners

Matthew & Lena Rumps & Family
Peter & Michelle Fiore
Richard & Jennine Rybarczyk

In Memoriam

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:



Gonzalo Carrillo, who died last week. His Funeral Mass was celebrated on January 6 in Los Angeles. Gonzalo is the cousin of Joe Garcia. Please keep the family in your prayers.

Carl Bechtold, who died on December 26. His funeral will be celebrated on Thursday, January 15, at 11:00am at St. Thomas More. 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.

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, 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.

For more information, call Sr. Maureen at 760-758-4100 x131.

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 760-630-4589.

Can't Get to Mass?

Our Parish has ministers who can bring Holy Communion to anyone who is unable to attend Mass—the homebound, those in the hospital, those in convalescent homes.

For information, please call the Parish Office at 760-758-4100.

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.

Little Rock Scripture Studies Touching the Mysteries: Scripture and Rosary

We would like to invite you to join us in the study of Scripture and the Rosary, beginning on Wednesday, January 14, at 9:00am, or Thursday, January 15, at 7:00pm, for five weeks. The study focuses on the biblical stories that provide background for the mysteries of the rosary. Each session is devoted to a set of mysteries—joyful, luminous, sorrowful, and glorious. The representatives will be on the Plaza after Masses to answer any questions you might have or to assist you in registering. Thank you very much.

Get on the Bus Program

Our Parish will be joining this very important endeavor. Get on the Bus brings children and their caregivers from throughout the state of California to visit their mothers and fathers in prison. This is so important! There are many ways to become involved in this program. For more information, contact Sr. Maureen at 760-758-4100 x131 or maureenb@stmoside.org.

2009...ANOTHER YEAR OLDER?

at Monday Night Youth Group

January 12, 2009

7:00-8:30pm

Lower Level

2ND WEDNESDAY ADORATION

January 14, 2009

7:00pm Blessed Sacrament

8:30pm Pick Up at Starbucks

Call Gale at 726-7236 for more information

BE THE CHANGE

"Be the change you wish to see in the world"

High School Retreat 2009

at Kamp Kuper, Escondido
Friday, January 23, at 6:00pm
to

Sunday, January 25, after 10:30am Mass
\$95 (includes Friday dinner to Sunday breakfast)
A few spaces remaining

Contact Person: Gale Gibbons 760-726-7236 or galeg@stmoside.org
Download forms at www.stmoside.org/hsym.htm

Women's Guild News

Luncheon Meeting—Monday, January 12, 11:00am. We will be having a Chinese Auction. Please bring your gently used knick knacks such as Lenox, Lladro, or Hummel figurines, or take this opportunity to recycle your Christmas presents. Cost is \$7. For more information, call Mary Vernaci at 760-599-4386 or Germaine Wilmott at 760-758-9949.

Women's Guild Raffle Winners—Congratulations!

Sr. Elaine Coutu—\$500

Bette Crowley—\$400

James Thompson—\$300

Lois Garth—\$200

Net proceeds were \$2,273.37, which will go towards our Building Fund pledge. Thanks to everyone who purchased raffle tickets and made our Christmas Raffle a success.

—*Germaine Wilmott, President*

Knights of Columbus Breakfast

Sunday, January 18, 9:00-10:30am

Times are selected to accommodate both Masses, so if you are planning to attend the 10:30am Mass, join us early!

Menu: Pancakes, Eggs, Bacon, Hash Browns, Coffee, Juice

Adult \$6, Child \$4 (age 5 & under Free)

Family Rate 2 plus children Max \$15

Reservations for parties of six or more—call 760-732-0543

STM \$crip News

Thank you to all who purchased Scrip for your shopping needs!

Start the new year off by looking over the Scrip list and making an effort to use the program. This is free money for our church. Let's let the merchants on our list help us build our church.

Scrip is sold after weekend Masses and on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00-10:00am in the Parish Office.

For information, call Theresa Goeltz at 760-453-2876

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!

Liturgy & Music

Worship God

Douglas Lynn
Director of Music/Coordinator of Liturgical Ministries
douglasl@stmoside.org; 760-758-4100 x140



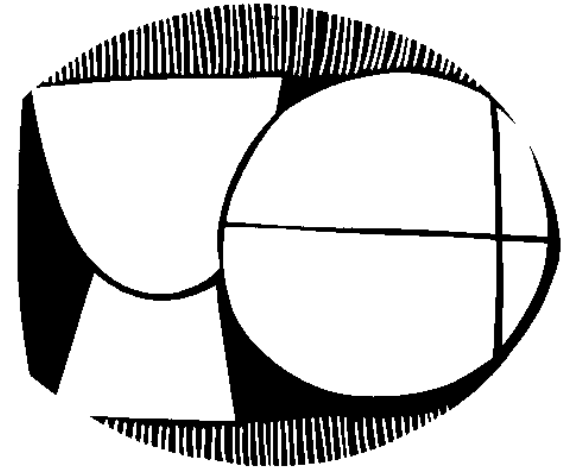
So...YOU WANT TO BE A EUCHARISTIC MINISTER? WE CERTAINLY NEED YOU!!!

Formation Class at St. Thomas More Saturday, January 24

The Oceanside Deanery (churches in the northwest portion of the diocese) will present a training at St. Thomas More Parish for those interested in becoming an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. It will take place on Saturday, January 24, from 9:00am to 3:30pm on the upper level of the Parish Center.

This class is comparable to the diocesan training that has been held here in the past.

Registration forms are available on the Parish's web site at www.stmoside.org/emhc.htm. Print it out and mail it in with your check for \$10 to cover the registration fee, payable to "Church of St. Thomas More." You also may return form and payment to the reception desk in the Parish Office. Forms are available at the reception desk during regular business hours as well.

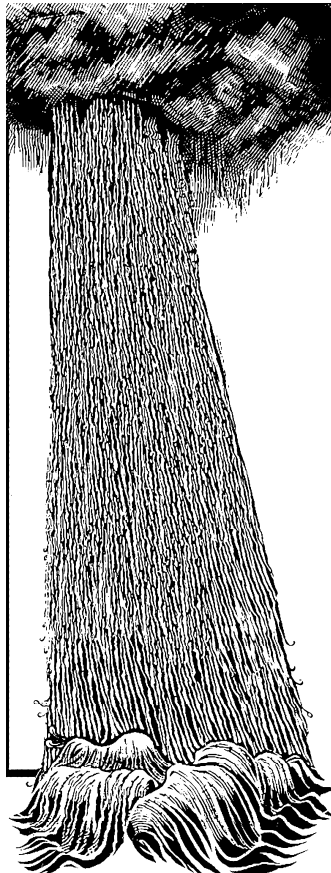


The class will be taught by the top-notch team of Rev. Jerry O'Donnell, of All Hallows Parish, Sr. Madeline Fitzgerald, OSC, of St. Francis Parish, and Ms. Mary Ann Fallon, former Director of Liturgy and Spirituality for the Diocese of San Diego.

Eucharistic Ministers must be confirmed in the Catholic Church.

We look forward to having you join us.

For additional information, contact Douglas Lynn at 760-758-4100 x140 or douglasl@stmoside.org.



WATER

It was spring in the Midwest. The hoped-for rains came, softening the earth, preparing it to receive the seed that would provide food for a nation. The rains went, the seed was planted. The earth burst forth, green with life. And the rains never returned. Crops died. The earth cracked. Farmers went broke.

Another spring. The hoped-for rains came. The drought was broken at last. The earth became soft again, healed of its fractures. But the rains never left. Streams overran their banks, rivers burst through levees. Cars and cattle were washed away. Homes and fields and entire towns were flooded. When the waters subsided, everything was covered with a thick layer of mud.

The next spring, the gentle rains came and went. The earth, wearing a new coat of fertile soil and holding reserves of water deep beneath its surface, brought forth a great bounty.

The waters of baptism, like the Midwest's rains and rivers, cannot be tamed and controlled. They bring both life and death, destruction and growth, fertility and barrenness. And always they show the power of God.

Springs of water, bless the Lord.

Music Ministry Next Week

JANUARY 17/18

5:00pm Mass

Cantor

8:30am Mass

Cantor

10:30am Mass

Cantor

Faith Formation

Teach and Live the Gospel

Kathleen Bell
Director of Faith Formation
kathleenb@stmoside.org; 760-758-4100 x110

Looking at Life Through the Eyes of Faith

"Fr. Mike (and friends) Bookies" moves on to a new book and another avenue for reflection and discussion on March 4.

Gift of the Red Bird by Paula Darcy is a profound story of loss and spiritual renewal. Sister Maureen will facilitate our discussion

Books are available for \$11 in the hall outside the Faith Formation Office. Anyone is welcome to join in!



"ONE BODY MANY PARTS Saint Paul - In His Own Words" On The Big Screen ONE DAY ONLY

*Saturday, January 24, 2009 - 10:00am
At a Theater Near You!*



This Mark Price portrayal is the one we hosted at STM last spring. In this Year of St. Paul, Mark has made a film of his presentation to be shown throughout the United States as we celebrate the feast of the Conversion of St. Paul.

Theaters have been rented in our area for this screening:

- **Escondido Stadium 16**
350 W VALLEY PKWY ESCONDIDO 92025
- **La Jolla Village 12**
8657 VILLA LA JOLLA DR LA JOLLA 92037
- **Oceanside 16**
401 MISSION AVE OCEANSIDE 92054
- **Mission Valley 20**
1640 CAMINO DEL RIO N SAN DIEGO 92108
- **Mira Mesa 18 with IMAX**
10733 WESTVIEW PKWY SAN DIEGO 92126
- **Horton Plaza**
475 HORTON PLZ SAN DIEGO 92101
- **San Marcos 18**
1180 W SAN MARCOS BLVD SAN MARCOS 92078

Additional information about the event can be found at
www.markpriceministries.com



A Gift For Our Parish Children

In this media age, our Catechists are constantly challenged to keep children "engaged" during our Religious Education classes. There are many short DVD's available that would help reinforce the instruction on faith concepts.

Perhaps you would care to make a New Year's gift so that we could build up our resources ~ \$20.00 will allow us to purchase one DVD.

Checks would be payable to STM with RE.A.CH in the memo.

Your generosity to our children is deeply appreciated.

Kathleen

BUB

Bell's Unofficial Bookstore, on the self-serve shelf outside the Faith Formation Office contains many religious items including Bibles and The Catechism of the Catholic Church.

There are currently a few copies of the 2009 Sunday Missal for those who like to prepare for Mass in advance (\$5).

High School, Phase I Courses

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| ★ February 9,16,23 | Monday Mini Course |
| ★ March 1,2,15,22,29, April 5 | Core Course |
| ★ April 19,26, May 3 | Sunday Mini Course |

Peanut Butter and Jelly Update

2009 GOAL: 365 jars
TOTAL to date: 104 jars



Stewardship & Development

Serve God's People

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

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP Modern Day Disciples

We are united with the new life of Christ through our Baptism—the living stones of the Church. In what way will we be good Christian stewards of that new life in the coming year? We pray:

Loving Father,

You are the Lord of our history;
our yesterdays, todays and tomorrows.

We join all of creation in giving you
praise and glory for the year behind us
and for the days you give us
in the year ahead.

Forgive us any misuse of days passed,
and help us in this new year
to use your gift of days
in a more loving and generous way.

Give us the strength to be less fearful and anxious,
but to find our hope in the Good News
brought about by the gift of your Son.

Show us how to face adversity with your grace
and only the peace you can provide,
and to see challenges as
opportunities to draw closer to you.

Fill us with your compassion,
that we may do our part to bring about
a more just world,
and to care for the most vulnerable among us.

We thank you for the gift of this new year,
and ask that you bless it, and help us be good stewards
of the resources you have so graciously
entrusted to us.

We as this through your Son, Jesus, Christ,
Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
One God forever and ever.

Amen.

*We are the disciples of our time.
Do we reflect our discipleship in the lives we lead?*

A WAY TO GIVE ~ A WAY TO RECEIVE



DESIGNATED BANK ACCOUNTS, WILLS, LIVING TRUSTS, STOCKS, LIFE INSURANCE, MUTUAL FUNDS, REAL ESTATE

There have been changes in the 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, Mutual Funds, Real Estate and Endowments.

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 3/4, 2009

Number of Registered Households:	985
Offertory*	\$ 15,233.96
Offertory (Loose Collection)	1,180.00
Children's envelopes	23.95
Total	\$ 16,437.91

(* Offertory Envelopes, Credit Card withdrawals,
Automatic Checking or Savings Account Deductions)

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, MC, or Discover)
- ♦ Automatic Checking Account Deduction
- ♦ Automatic Savings Account Deduction

To participate in these time-saving alternatives,
please contact the Parish Office at:
760-758-4100 x100 or parishoffice@stmoside.org

News from the Larger Church

Hospice Volunteers Needed in San Diego County—Sharp Hospice Care needs caring, compassionate adults and teens to work with the terminally ill and their families throughout San Diego County. Training for hospice volunteers will be January 15-February 7, for a total of one Thursday evening session and four Saturday sessions. The training's focus is on communication skills, ethics, needs of the terminally ill, family dynamics, pain and symptom management, grief and bereavement, and spiritual care of the dying and their loved ones. For further information, contact Camelia McRae Gower, Program Coordinator, at 619-667-1900.

Diocesan Institute Course in San Marcos—Tuesday, January 20-February 24, 7:00-9:30pm, at St. Mark's Church in San Marcos. Course S340 Apocalyptic Literature: Exploration of the books of Daniel and the Revelation of John, their literary genre, and their historical and faith contexts. Taught by Bernadeane Carr, S.T.L. For more information, call 858-490-8212.

Eucharistic Healing Service for Pro-Life Issues in San Marcos—Thursday, January 22, 7:00pm, at St. Mark's Catholic Church, 1147 Discovery St., San Marcos. On this day that we mark the anniversary of Roe v. Wade, let us come together as a faith community and pray for life, for those suffering from a past abortion or miscarriage, and for those who are suffering from terminal illness or caring for the terminally ill. It is a time to pray and ask for God's healing and to embrace life as God has planned.

Magnificat Women's Ministry Breakfast in Escondido—Saturday, January 24, 9:00am-Noon at the California Center for the Arts in Escondido. Come and gather together for a spirit-filled breakfast. Testimony given by Jessica Liston, a senior at Steubenville University. Young people are encouraged to attend. Bring your daughters and granddaughters to this uplifting morning. For reservations, contact Mary Carey at 489-5588 or www.members.cox.net/Magnificat.

Catholic Widows and Widowers of North County—will attend the 10:30am Mass on Sunday, January 25, at St. Thomas More, with luncheon following at Mimi's in Oceanside. For more information, contact Jackie Cohen at 760-7264343.

Healing Masses in Solana Beach—Wednesday, January 28, 7:00pm, with Fr. Ernesto Torres. Both Masses will be at St. James Church, 625 S. Nardo Ave., Solana Beach. For more information, contact Cory Graves at 858-755-8990.

Annual Parent Retreat in San Marcos—January 30-February 1 at St. Mark's Parish in San Marcos. Michael Barber, Professor of Theology, Scripture, and Catholic thought at John Paul the Great Catholic University in San Diego, will be the guest speaker. The retreat will also include praise and worship, a healing prayer service, and opportunities for Eucharistic Adoration and confession. For more information, contact Jennifer McClintock at 760-744-1130 or Jennifer@stmarksccc.org.

St. Francis Church Online Auction Extravaganza!—Mark your calendars for Wednesday, February 4, and bookmark www.catholicauctionsonline.com on your internet browser. The St. Francis Church online auction includes a variety of items such as a signed Christmas card by Greer Garson postmarked in 1940,

a brand new microwave oven, crystal candle stick holders, an original painting, antiques, collectables, and so much more! Bidder registration is free and the CAO web site is managed locally to serve any Catholic organization that is seeking alternatives to fundraising! For more information, contact Julie Kaiser at jkaiser@sfs-vista.org.

Mainly Mozart Concert Series in Carlsbad—Sunday, February 15, 2:00pm, at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 6628 Santa Isabel St., Carlsbad. Featuring James Ehnes, violin, Cynthia Phelps, viola, and Julie Albers, cello, performing Schubert's Trio in B flat, D. 471 and Mozart's Divertimento in E flat, K. 563. For more information, contact www.mainlymozart.com or 619-239-0100 x2.

Pilgrimage to Holy Land—Starting May 25 with Sr. Margaret Kelly, OP, the Director of Religious Education at Mission San Diego de Alcalá. Package includes airfare from San Diego, 4-star hotels (double occupancy), daily Mass, breakfast and dinner daily, all entrance fees and admission charges. For more information, contact Sr. Margaret at 619-624-0900.



Foster and Affirm Vocations to Priesthood and Religious Life in Carlsbad—Join the Serra Club of San Diego North Coast at 8:00am Mass at St. Patrick Church in Carlsbad followed by a breakfast meeting on the second Saturday and fourth Tuesday of each month. For more information, call 760-729-9528.

Volunteers Needed as Advocates for Foster Children—Become a child advocate and make a lasting difference in the life of a foster child. More than just a mentor, you can give hope to a child who has none. For upcoming information session dates, contact www.speakupnow.org or 858-569-2019.

Mission San Luis Rey Retreat Center in Oceanside—has an ongoing schedule of retreat activities. For more information, contact 760-757-3659 or www.sanluisrey.org.

Diocesan Young Adult Ministry—Contact Carrie Giebel at cgiebel@diocese-sdieog.org or 858-490-8260 for scheduled young adult activities around the Diocese.

University of San Diego Center for Christian Spirituality in San Diego—has an ongoing schedule of lectures and workshops. For more information, contact 619-260-4784 or www.sandiego.edu/ccs.

Interfaith Community Services Needs Help

A founding faith center, First United Methodist in Escondido has a faith family member to add to your prayers. A home fire has taken everything including Christmas gifts from a family of four. Though the parents lost everything all they ask is for double XXL t-shirts they can share. They are asking instead to help with the twin's clothing needs. Son, Connor, daughter, Kristen, both 9 years of age; Kristen clothing size 14 to 16 shoe size 4-1/2 to 5, Connor clothing size 8 shoe size 3 to 3-1/2. Uninsured beyond the immediate emergency needs—note in the near future this is a family that will need to acquire furniture, kitchen items, linens, and a lifetime collection of household items. If you can provide any of these items, please contact either First United Methodist at 760-745-5100 or Mary Ferro at Interfaith Community Services at 760-489-6380 x266.



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

Parish Contacts

Updated 11/26/08

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)	Wayne Zych 598-9244
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
Young Adult Ministry	Joanna Mueller 726-5644
Evangelization	Available
Vocations	Deacon Tom & Patt Goeltz 758-4100 x130
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 295-5530
Environment & Art	Kathy Quinn 722-7525
Eucharistic Adoration	John O'Donnell 598-6003
Interior Design Team	Pat & Phil Goscinski 732-1414
Liturgical Ministries	Douglas Lynn 758-4100 x140
Liturgical Music	Douglas Lynn 758-4100 x140
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 Classic	John Murphy 945-9935
Historian	Anne Marshall 727-2668
Knights of Columbus	John O'Donnell 598-6003
Library	Chris James 598-5881
Spirited Seniors	Stella Leu� 726-3869
.....	Judy & Jerry Buoniconti 758-5113
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
Congregations for Civic Action ...	Sr. Maureen Brown 758-4100 x131
CPR/AED Classes	Phil Goscinski 732-1414
Disability Facilitation	Ann Eriksson 599-7151
Fraternity & Michaelle House	Carmen Tamayo 727-3028
Huggy Buddies Program	Gale Gibbons 726-7236
Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice	
.....	Sr. Maureen Brown 758-4100 x131
Interfaith Shelter Network	Frank Coxon 599-8760
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 (<i>Eucharist</i>)	Jean McCloskey 643-2363
Sister Parish Program	Sr. Maureen Brown, 758-4100 x131
St. Bonaventure Mission	Knights of Columbus 598-6003
Office Support	Henny Jocelyn 758-4100 x100
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	Flora Fallone 758-4100 x100
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	Theresa Goeltz 453-2876
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	thomast@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
Stacey Griffin, Faith Formation Office Assistant	758-4100 x110	staceyg@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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UPDATE
January 11, 2009

“Our Journey Into The Future . . . Together”

Grand Total Pledged to Date
\$5,780,000

\$5,100,000 Pledges/Special Gifts
\$ 680,000 Rectory/Investment Gifts*

**Investment gifts (such as annuities, charitable remainder trusts, etc.) reflect current market value. Actual amounts realized upon redemption may vary.*

\$12,400,000 Capital Campaign Components:

- ✚ Sanctuary, Bell Tower, Daily Chapel, and Memorial Gardens
- ✚ Parish Center Debt Retirement
- ✚ Adjacent Land/Five Acres
- ✚ SEI—North County High School (*Secondary Education Initiative*)
- ✚ Parish Administration Building/Youth Center

\$12,400,000

Total original goal

\$1,500,000

Future Administration Building/Youth Center
(original estimate)

\$5,120,000

Remaining funds needed to build the Sanctuary (\$9,300,000 current estimated cost—subject to market fluctuation)—loan and/or new and renewed pledges

A \$5,000,000 loan would require \$32,215 monthly payments for 25 years at 6% interest.

We Are Here!
\$4,080,000
received to date

\$1,700,000

Remaining pledge balance
(includes pledges, special gifts, rectory, and investment gifts)

\$2,800,000

Funds on deposit at the Diocese to date
(toward \$3,100,000 minimum requirement for loan and construction approval)

\$ 110,000

Preliminary construction costs paid to date

\$ 91,000

Capital Campaign administrative costs to date

\$ 450,000

Payments on Parish Center debt (\$400,000 remaining balance, scheduled to be totally retired by December, 2011)

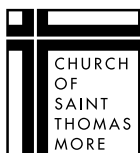
\$ 44,000

Necessary land maintenance/improvements to date

\$ 585,000

Additional five-acre land purchase (paid in full)

\$215,000 Secondary Education Initiative (Paid with the interest from our funds on deposit. This is directed toward our \$1,000,000 pledge for the new Catholic High School in North County.)



For more information, contact Chris Smith, Director of Stewardship and Development
760-758-4100 x120 or chriss@stmoside.org

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Text of presentation by Bill Ipsen at all Masses the weekend of January 11, 2009

I'm Bill Ipsen, Chairman of the St. Thomas More *"Our Journey Into The Future . . . Together"* Capital Campaign. I am here today to give you an update of events and of finances relating to our Capital Campaign in our on-going effort to keep everyone informed as the campaign moves forward in 2009.

The global and national events of the past year have had an impact on our Parish just as they have had on our personal lives. The difficulty of managing the many necessary ministerial programs and the day to day operations at St. Thomas More are similar to and as challenging as the balancing act we all are facing in regard to our personal budgets at home. It has been a challenge to say the least.

The first three years of our Capital Campaign we were not only on target, but we saw more annual donations than actual pledges. In the latter part of 2008, however, our campaign donations decreased. We now find ourselves, for the first time in this campaign, needing to catch up a bit with our pledge income.

As of January 1, 2009, the building fund has a grand total of \$5.78 million pledged, of which we have collected \$4 million. A portion of this has been spent to pay for the purchase of our additional five acres of land which will guarantee us enough parking for the future and athletic fields for our future school; for the continued pay down of the debt on our Parish Center; for many preliminary pre-construction costs; and for the administrative costs of running our Capital Campaign. Also, with the interest collected on our funds on deposit, we are paying toward our pledge for the new Catholic high school in North County. We currently have \$2.8 million on deposit in the Parish and School Deposit and Loan Trust with the Diocese.

There continues to be tremendous support from you. 77% of Parish households have

made a pledge, while 94% of Parish households have financially supported the campaign in a variety of ways.

It is extremely important to remember that when we began this Capital Campaign we were concerned about the "whole enchilada," that is, about all of our goals. The building of our permanent worship space was not our only goal. As you know, our major goal, our goal of goals, is, indeed, the construction of our permanent Sanctuary, but we also had a number of other goals that we had to tackle at the same time.

We are moving as quickly as we can with this while we continue to pay off the debt on this building. Presently the estimated cost of the Church is \$9.3 million. To meet this first goal we will need one third of that total, or \$3.1 million, on deposit with the Diocese. At this time we have a total of \$2.8 million on deposit and are getting very close to that portion of our goal.

At the same time it is especially encouraging to report that many new Parish households joining St. Thomas More are signing up to support both our Capital Campaign and, more importantly, our weekly operations funding.

However, and I must stress this very important fact, while I am pleased to report the Capital Campaign has great support and is holding its own during this economic period, there are other important criteria that must be met in order to secure the financing necessary to begin the project. Recently we have seen four new projects in the Diocese getting started which demonstrates that once all the criteria are met, these projects have the support of the Bishop, and financing is then available for them to move forward.

We are getting very close, but we are not yet meeting all of the necessary criteria.

In light of current economic realities, and after a very deliberate and thorough process examining our *overall financial situation*, Fr. Mike and our Finance, Development and Pastoral Councils, have determined that the actual construction phase of our Church will need to wait. We cannot obtain a new loan until we have met *all* of the Diocesan requirements pertaining to our operational income as well as our Capital Campaign income.

It is important to keep in mind that all of the necessary preliminary work required before “the shovel hits the dirt” is continuing.

The development of the liturgical program continues with our liturgical consultant, Robert Habiger, and the Parish Interior Design Team. This process will be complete in a few months.

The schematic and architectural design work with Renzo Zecchetto Architects will begin as soon as we have enough money on deposit to meet the necessary operations income requirements for a Diocesan loan. The caveat is that all fundraising needs to be current, economic conditions improved, and most importantly, we meet Diocesan guidelines for a new loan.

Remember that in the summer of 2004 we held four town hall meetings at St. Thomas More. These were widely publicized, and held at various times to give all Parishioners an opportunity to attend and help our leadership come to a consensus on our build out plans. We stressed then that we would be on a fund-line and not a timeline. A timeline is useless if there is not enough money to obtain a loan and start the building process.

The majority of those who were in attendance voiced strong support to make our Church building a top priority, our goal of goals, if

you will. Also, a majority of parishioners made it very clear to Fr. Mike upon his arrival at St. Thomas More, and in his first years with us, that the building of this permanent Sanctuary should be a top priority. That being said, the ship has left the harbor and has set sail, and we are on course to build our Sanctuary.

I now must focus on the operations budget to help you get a clearer view of the context in which a decision of when to build is made. We have been impacted by the economy. We are currently, experiencing a shortfall in our weekly offerings. To put it bluntly, we are operating in a negative financial position.

Our Finance Council, along with Fr. Mike, strives to insure that our Parish continues to function as well as can be expected on a significantly reduced budget. This 22,500 square foot Parish Center is almost eight years old and requires a greater upkeep that was not required several years ago.

One of the biggest issues we face is that in spite of the success of several fund raising activities — such as the “Did You Know?” Campaign, the Annual Church Golf Classic, the rebate to our Parish from the Annual Catholic Appeal, and the donations of vehicles to our Parish — we continue to operate in a negative position.

Instead of these activities raising additional funds for the Capital Campaign, we have had to place them into our annual operations budget, which still continues to experience a shortfall. We must get ourselves in a position of positive cash flow and be solvent through our weekly offerings and get programs like these back to helping to fund the Capital Campaign, as they were originally intended.

This will, of course, be one of the main criteria the Diocese will have as they review

our application to move forward with our building project. How can we move forward to build more, if we, as a Parish, cannot pay for what we presently have?

Also keep in mind that one of the necessary goals of this Capital Campaign is to pay off the debt for this building. We still have an \$11,000 monthly payment on the Parish Center we now occupy. Our final payment will be in December 2011.

Even if we had the deposit money on hand today for the new church, we would have to assume a *minimum* mortgage of some \$5 million. This would allow us to build the Sanctuary, and the shell of the Daily Chapel. The interior of the chapel and the memorial gardens would be completed in the future as more money became available. A \$5 million loan at 6% interest for 25 years would require a monthly payment of \$32,215. In addition, there would be the funds associated with upkeep on a second building.

As you can see it would be impossible to assume additional debt at the current time and it would be foolish to petition the Diocese for funding. Aside from having the deposit monies required, the first thing the Diocese will do is examine our financial position to make certain we have the strength to retire the debt we assume with a new building.

As of today, I have to tell you we are strong, but not strong enough yet. So the news is very good, yet very challenging.

When we are looking at the “Whole Enchilada” we see that have done incredibly well! We have close to one-third of the build out cost for our Sanctuary on deposit and we have tremendous support for the Capital Campaign.

The key to our ongoing success, especially in these difficult economic times, is a renewed

commitment to the operations budget and an ongoing renewal of your pledges to the Capital Campaign when your present pledge has been fulfilled. Many of you are indeed doing this already and we are very grateful for the sacrifices that you are making on behalf of St. Thomas More.

We have come a long way, but we still have a long way to go. These economic times do not make it easier, but rather even more difficult.

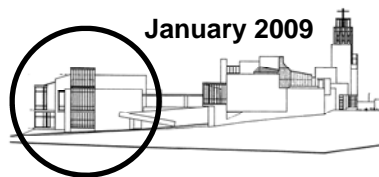
Fr. Mike seeks your continued support and cooperation as we move forward. It is important to remember that we are moving forward, but just not as fast as we would like. All of you have heard the challenge before and you responded in a positive way. I know that you will accept this new call.

I implore all of us to pray for our mission and our ministry here at St. Thomas More, to pray for the ability to somehow look deep and reach deep to support our Parish.

More than ever we need that support from God and from you...our Church family.

Thank you and may God bless you.

—Bill Ipsen



Church of St. Thomas More
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“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.

Please make checks payable to:
Church of St. Thomas More
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Name: _____

Phone: _____

Envelopes may be returned any time during the month via
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Parish ID#: _____

Amount Enclosed: **\$** _____