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







Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor Deacon Thomas A. Goeltz

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 AdorationMonday-Friday, 6:30am-7:30pm

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

March 29, 2009 • Fifth Sunday of Lent

FAITHFUL FAMILIES PARISH MISSION

Sunday and Monday, March 29-30 • See Page 7!

R I D Mass of the Lord's Supper Thursday, April 9 • 6:00pm

Good Friday of the Lord's Passion Friday, April 10 • 12:00noon or 7:00pm

The Easter Vigil
Saturday, April 11 • 8:00pm

The Resurrection of the Lord Sunday, April 12 • 6:30am, 8:30am, or 10:30am

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Pastor's Column

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

On Genuine Religion

These words are taken from an address given by Pope Benedict XVI to the Representatives of Cameroon's Muslim Community on March 19, 2009 during his visit to Africa:

"...I believe a particularly urgent task of religion today is to unveil the vast potential of human reason, which is itself God's gift and which is elevated by revelation and faith.

Belief in the one God, far from stunting our capacity to understand ourselves and the world, broadens it. Far from setting us against the world, it commits us to it.

We are called to help others see the subtle traces and mysterious presence of God in the world which he has marvelously created and continually sustains with his ineffable and all-embracing love.

Although his infinite glory can never be directly grasped by our finite minds in this life, we nonetheless catch glimpses of it in the beauty that surrounds us.

(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

Matrimonv:

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 vrs.)/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 our 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.

Pastor's Column (Continued from page 1)

When men and women allow the magnificent order of the world and the splendour of human dignity to illumine their minds, they discover that what is "reasonable" extends far beyond what mathematics can calculate, logic can deduce, and scientific experimentation can demonstrate; it includes the goodness and innate attractiveness of upright and ethical living made known to us in the very language of creation.

This insight prompts us to seek all that is right and just, to step outside the restricted sphere of our own self-interest and act for the good of others.

Genuine religion thus widens the horizon of human understanding and stands at the base of any authentically human culture. It rejects all forms of violence and totalitarianism: not only on principles of faith, but also of right reason.

Indeed, religion and reason mutually reinforce one another since religion is purified and structured by reason, and reason's full potential is unleashed by revelation and faith.

I therefore encourage you, my dear Muslim friends, to imbue society with the values that emerge from this perspective and elevate human culture, as we work together to build a civilization of love.

May the enthusiastic cooperation of Muslims, Catholics, and other Christians in Cameroon be a beacon to other African nations of the enormous potential of an interreligious commitment to peace, justice, and the common good!"

In this Lenten Season, let us pray for, and be mindful of, the enormous potential of interreligious commitment, not only for Africa, but for us here in the United States, and indeed, around the world.

It is the only way to justice and peace.

Herman—Rest in Peace!

Herman died suddenly and unexpectedly on Wednesday, March 18.

His "vet," after consultation with other "vets," believes that he probably died of meningitis.

Herman celebrated his fourth birthday on February 28.

He lived a charmed, though short life. He was so comfortable here among the Faith Community of St. Thomas More. He knew that he was loved and appreciated by so many!

I am grateful for all of you who embraced him simply because you knew that he was special to me.

Your care and concern, and your notes of condolence to me, are greatly appreciated!

Let us continue to celebrate and rejoice in all of God's Creation. and be mindful that we are called to "steward" the world in which we live. —Fr. Mike



Readings for the Week Ahead

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

Sunday, March 29 (35)

Fifth Sunday of Lent Jeremiah 31:31-34 Psalm 51:3-4,12-15 Hebrews 5:7-9

John 12:20-33

Monday, March 30 (251) Daniel 13:1-9,15-17,19-30,33-62

Psalm 23:1-6 John 8:1-11

Tuesday, March 31 (252)

Numbers 21:4-9 Psalm 102:2-3,16-21

John 8:21-30

Wednesday, April 1 (253) Daniel 3:14-20,91-92,95

Daniel 3:52-56 (Psalm)

John 8:31-42

Thursday, April 2 (254)

Francis of Paola, hermit Genesis 17:3-9

Psalm 105:4-9

John 8:51-59

Friday, April 3 (255)

Jeremiah 20:10-13 Psalm 18:2-7

John 10:31-42

Saturday, April 4 (256)

Isidore, bishop, doctor

Ezekiel 37:21-28 Jeremiah 31:10-13 (Psalm)

John 11:45-56

Sunday, April 5 (37, 38)

Palm Sunday of Our Lord's Passion John 12:12-16

Isaiah 50:4-7

Psalm 22:8-9,17-20,23-24

Philippians 2:6-11

Mark 14:1-15:47

Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 28, 5:00pm J. C. Gonzalez 🕈

Sunday, March 29, 8:30am Lewis Garrett &

Sunday, March 29, 10:30am Missa pro Populo

Tuesday, March 31, 8:15am Willis E. Holmes & Genevieve C. Holmes &

Wednesday, April 1, 8:15am Elizabeth Nead P

Thursday, April 2, 8:15am Daphne Dunn 🕈

Friday, April 3, 8:15am Theresa Burns T

Saturday, April 4, 5:00pm Lee Romens &

Sunday, April 5, 8:30am Bud Hazlett &

Sunday, April 5, 10:30am Departed Souls of the Monteiro Family ₽

Prayer List

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

Mary Alexander Mary Baker Patricia Barbour Cindra Bell Jean Bentz Beatrice Brooks & Family Janet Brown Steve Brown Irene Caligiuri Shelby Campbell Paul Cassidy Marjorie Chapin James Coleman The Coley Family The Corcoran Family Thomas Cornwell & Family Jean Crowell Karen Flaharty Daley Margie Daniels & Family Mercedes Dea Cecilia DeSimone Linda Dossman Ann Edmunson Kathryn Ernst The Fiore Family Peggy Fischer Larry Fisk Lucy Fonseca The Fox Family Kathryn Franklin Lyn Friedman Lourdes Garcia Bob Godley Rick Gonzalez Paula Gurrera Anita Hage Susan Hallahan

The Harker Family Rita Harnacker Barry Henwood

Kristin Hinds-Sweet Cynthia Horner The Jacobson Family The Jaeger Family Sue Johnston

Joan Jones Colleen Kaup Paul Kennedy Debbie Kinny

George Kleekamp The Koffroth Family Sr. Anne Kremenik Helen Kuhn

Lillian Lachance The Lamelin Family

The Layden & Bermudez Families Brandon LeBlanc

Cassandra Loretto Lauren Loretto Jackie Lvnn

James MacArthur Ken Mauro Bob McWilliams Carol Michael

Carroll Tom & Nona Miller Nancy Moore

Margie Myers R. Northrup

Sergio Ochoa Helen O'Connell Esther Ortega Lupe Casas Pelletier Helen Pingtella Mary Kay Porter Anne Post Otila Quiroz Janet Raiman Margo Redford Deana Reynolds Dort Riley

Joanne Robinson The Rodriguez Family The Rodriguez Family Sr. Loyola Romey Dorothy Rouse Rose Rowland The Russo Family Julie Shea Nick Soltan

Ed Sox Dorothy and Ray Staehr Marie Sterling Carl Streling Henrietta Tiernan Steven Toth Lisa & Kyle Valpoon Arnie Velasco

Dominic Vienna, Jr. Vanessa Vitiello-Koble Kevin Watson-Graff Ed Wesel Marilvn 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 Sgt. Jason Cohick, Air Force Reserve Mst. Sgt. Shellie Cohick, Air Force

Capt. Gregory Day, USMC Lance Corporal Brandon Doyle,

St Sgt Joseph Duffy, USAF Staff Sgt. Julian Fyffe, USMC MSGT Steve Gallegos, USMC Med. Staff Sgt. Jana Alexander Madrid, USAF

Pvt. 2 Jess Phillips, US Army Julian Torres, USMC Maj. Scott Wadle, USMC

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

IMMIGRANTS ALL

Liturgy & Music

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Faithful Families: Our Parish Mission

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Saying "No"

as Well as "Yes" Is OK!

Christian Stewardship Page 8

Calendar Highlights

Also check the Parish website (www.stmoside.org) for complete calendar information.

The Week Ahead

Mar 29 Liturgy of the Word for Children at 8:30am and 10:30am Masses

Mar 29-30 Parish Mission: Faithful Families

Fish Dinner and Apr 3 Stations of the Cross

Liturgy of the Word for Apr 5 Children at 8:30am

Mass

Apr 5 RE.A.CH Classes at Church (including HS)

The Month Ahead

Easter Triduum

Holy Thursday Apr 9 Apr 10 Good Friday Easter Vigil Apr 11

Easter Sunday—Masses Apr 12 at 6:30, 8:30, 10:30am

April 19 RE.A.CH Classes at Church

Apr 20 Women's Guild Luncheon Meeting

Spring Sing Invitational Apr 26 Choral Festival Concert

The Year Ahead

STM Tenth Annual May 1 Golf Classic

May 11 Women's Guild Luncheon Meeting with Election of Officers

May 13 Women's Guild North County Deanery Lunch Meeting

May 21-24 Adult Choir Tour

to Napa, California Confirmation May 31

Women's Guild Lunch at June 6 Shadowridge Country

In Memoriam



Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Ginny Jaeger**, who died this week. Her Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Friday, April 3, at 10:30am at St. Thomas More. Please keep her husband Bernie and the family in your prayers.

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

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.

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 Jim Treat at 760-598-3602.

St. Francis and St. Thomas More Offertory Envelopes

Any St. Francis Offertory Envelopes given to the offertory collection at St. Thomas More will be returned to St. Francis.

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STM \$crip News

Thank you to all who use the Scrip Program!

In order for St. Thomas More to benefit from your shopping at Ralphs, Food4Less, and Albertsons you must update your cards. Please stop by the Scrip table to find out how, or call Theresa Goeltz at 760-453-2876.

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

I Want to Earn STM Building Fund \$\$\$ with My Albertson's Card #(11 digits)				
l □ Pleas	e send me a Food 4 Less Card			
Name				
Address_				
Phone	Email			
it to ti	place completed form in the collection basket or return he \$CRIP table after weekend Masses or the Parish during the week. Thank you!			





New Orleans Update

Our volunteers are on their way home after a week in New Orleans helping repair and restore homes damaged by Hurricane Katrina.

For more pictures and the daily diary, visit the Parish website:

www.stmoside.org and click on:

Ministries/Pastoral Staff, then click on:

New Orleans 2009 in the Quick Clicks section.

Women's Guild News

Bake Sale Results—A great big **Thank You** to everyone who participated in the bake sale last weekend, from callers and bakers to buyers and donators. Because of your generosity, we raised over \$1,080!

Board Meeting—Monday, April 6, at Germaine Wilmott's home to discuss the April 20 meeting and the June 6 installation at Shadowridge Country Club. Please RSVP to Germaine at 760-758-9949.

Luncheon Meeting—Monday, April 20, 11:00am, lower level of the Parish Center. Cost is \$7. The Nominating Committee will announce the candidates for the new Board. Then we'll play card Bingo! Please RSVP to Mary Vernaci at 760-727-2318 or Germaine Wilmott at 760-758-9949.

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 during Mass for consumption at these dinners. We need "Hosts" who provide the setup in their home, and "Guests" who will be assigned to those home 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 a Host Home or Guest will take place after all Masses the weekends of March 21-22 and 28-29. The last day to sign up will be Sunday, March 29 after the 10:30am Mass. If you would like more information, call Henny Jocelyn at 760-758-4100 x100 or 760-726-1177.

Tenth Anniversary Golf Classic ~ Friday, May 1

A full day of celebration, fun and fellowship with family and friends!

Registrations needed for:

♦ Golf at Fallbrook Golf Club ~ foursomes and singles

(Anniversary special—\$100 per person for foursome, includes golf, lunch, and dinner!)

♦ Miniature Golf at *Boomers!* ~ foursomes and singles

FUN afternoon with a demo by a professional miniature golfer—who knew?

- ◆ **Sponsorships**—a great way to support our Tenth Anniversary!
- ♦ New item donations for the auction and raffles
- ◆ Volunteers to help at Fallbrook Golf Club and Boomers of Vista for Miniature golf!

1955 Classic Ford Truck to be auctioned at dinner!

- ◆ Beautiful vintage "show" truck will go to the highest bidder on May 1. Bidding will start at \$7,000.
- ◆ The truck will be on the Plaza after all Masses this weekend and the weekend after Easter, April 18-19.



- ♦ Sealed bids will be available for those who are out of town and cannot attend on May 1.
- ♦ Don't miss out on this!

First Annual Pastor's Dinner ~ Sunday, August 23

- ♦ New twist for the culinary evening hosted by Fr. Mike!
- ♦ 100 seats available for \$250 per seat
- Spectacular dinner at Shadowridge Country Club hors d'oeuvres, open bar, and, desserts. Be sure to come hungry!
- ◆ Entertainment by The Alley Cats!
- ♦ 30 seats have already been reserved!
- ♦ Oh, what a night ~ sign up today!!!



For more information, contact John Murphy at 760-497-6117 or murphy8801@cox.net.

Get On the Bus

Thank you so much for your generosity in supplying funds and items for the children as they travel to see their moms at the two prisons in Chowchilla.

The items received for the children's gift bags before March 24 have been sorted in order to know what else is needed before the actual event on May 8. Please check the information table on the Plaza for an updated list of items needed.

If you would like to help with any aspect of this program, please contact Vanessa Ferraro at 858-518-5991.

Knights of Columbus News

Fish Dinner on Friday, April 3
5:30-6:30pm
Last one for this year!
Don't miss the delicious fish dinner,
Bob Wong's fabulous dessert bar,
and raffles

Please join us!

Eucharistic Adoration



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

Exposition of the Eucharist on First Fridays. Next date: Friday, April 3.

For more information, contact John O'Donnell at 760-598-6003.

2009 Annual Catholic Appeal Now Underway!

St. Thomas More's "Fair Share": \$34,000

Pledge Total to Date: \$16,940 Households Responding: 119 Average Gift per Household: \$142.35

Your support is greatly appreciated!

—Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor



Join us for the Parish Mission!

STEUBENVILLE SIGN-UP IS HAPPENING NOW!

Secure your spot with a deposit by April 6

Call Gale at 726-7236 for questions or check www.stmoside.org/hsym.htm

Liturgy & Music



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



IMMIGRANTS ALL

Scripture Themes for April

From the time Abram set out from Ur of the Chaldeans to travel to the land God would show to him...from the time the enslaved descendants of Abraham escaped from Egypt to trek through the desert in order to claim the land of God's promise... from the moment Jesus left his place with God to journey into time and space and into flesh and blood and make his home among us for a while...from the years when Jesus walked among us doing good, forgiving sins, and making the love of God known to all, especially to this world's least and lowly ones...from the day when Jesus turned his face toward Jerusalem and made his way to the upper room, to the garden of Gethsemane, to the courts of Caiaphas and Pilate, to Calvary, to the cross, to the tomb and from the tomb, ours has been a faith tradition characterized by movement (April 5).

Even after his journey from death to risen life, Jesus would continue his holy migration. He would return to his own in the upper room to strengthen them with the assurance that they were no longer rootless strangers but citizens of the kingdom and God's own sons and daughters in whom the Spirit chooses to live and move and breathe (April 19). He would entrust them with the power to offer peace and forgiveness to others so that all may be able to move from the darkness of sin into the light of salvation. He traveled with his own on the road to Emmaus and reminded them that they would always have Eucharistic food to sustain them in all their journeying (April 26). All this had been made possible through the movement of Jesus, lifted up in death on the cross, lifted up from death to life. In that uniquely powerful movement through suffering to exaltation, Jesus drew unto himself and to God all who believe. This is the movement and the mystery we celebrate not only this month but every month,

Music Ministry Next Week

APRIL 4/5 Palm Sunday 5:00pm Mass

Cantor

8:30am Mass

Cantor

10:30am Mass

Adult Choir Handbell Choir

APRIL 6

7:00pm Mass

MNM Music Team

APRIL 9 Holy Thursday 6:00pm Mass

Adult Choir Handbell Choir

APRIL 10 Good Friday

12:00pm Liturgy

Cantor

7:00pm Liturgy

Adult Choir

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

FRIDAY, APRIL 3 8:45am - 6:30pm

INTENTION FOR THE DAY

That we will unite our crosses to the Cross of Christ.

for it is through Jesus' momentous journey that we are healed and forgiven, liberated and redeemed. All of the Hebrew scriptures prepared for this moment and moved toward it; all of the Christian scriptures celebrate this moment, and both testaments gather us in for our annual remembrance of the journey of Jesus from God to us and back to God with every forgiven sinner in tow.

Caught up in this movement and consecrated by it, the first disciples whom Jesus had called to himself continued the journey he had begun (April 12). With new meaning and a new purpose in each of their lives, those early believers put into motion the process whereby the proclaimer of the good news became the proclaimed. Jesus, the messenger sent by God, had become the message, and the power of that good news prompted a universal migration of all peoples toward the God who made and loves them all.

It is a migration that continues to this day. The church's character as a people on the move has been eloquently affirmed by the participants at the Second Vatican Council: As church, we are the one pilgrim people of God, present in all the nations of the earth. All these faithful scattered throughout the world are in communion with each other in the Holy Spirit. As church, the people of God fosters and takes unto itself, insofar as they are good, the abilities, the resources and the customs of all these pilgrim people to purify, strengthen and elevate them. This character of mobility and universality that defines the people of God is a gift from the Lord, who ceaselessly seeks the return of all of humankind to himself, to God.

Centuries before these insights were expressed, Augustine acknowledged the difficulty of the church's journey: "Like a stranger in a foreign land, the church presses forward amid the persecutions of the world and the consolations of God." But we know that we do not journey alone. Every step of the way is blessed and graced with the presence and power of God. Christ's Spirit remains with the church and within every immigrant who strives for peace and justice here and now and fulfillment in the life to come. Given the fact of our common status as spiritual migrants in this world, it devolves upon us to uphold and defend the rights of our fellow immigrants. Regardless of their ethnicity, age, and gender, and with or without documentation. all are the people of God; all are on the move toward home, where the God who loves us all will welcome all without exception.

> —Patricia Datchuck Sánchez and Rafael Sánchez Alonso from Celebration magazine, April 2009

Faith Formation



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

IT'S HERE!!

Faithful Families Our Parish Mission

March 29 & 30, 7:00-9:00pm Sunday & Monday Sessions

If you have ever asked yourself if Catholic teaching can be

- relevant,
- funny,
- meaningful and inspiring,

ask no more.

This *Mission*will inspire you spiritually
and practically,

regardless of whether you're young or old, married or single, liberal or conservative!







Fr. Mike's Bookies

You are invited to enjoy *Christ the Lord: The Road to Cana* by Anne Rice, which is next in the series of our Parish Book Club on Wednesday, May 6 at 9:00am or 7:00pm. Fr. Mike will be facilitating the discussion of the final book in our series.

Books are available for \$8 on the lower level.

Peanut Butter and Jelly Update



2009 GOAL: 365 jars TOTAL to date: 218 jars

Your almsgiving is appreciated!



Lenten Journey—the Second Half

Operation Rice Bowl

Does the cardboard Rice Bowl, (or just any designated bowl) occupy a prominent place on your table, as a visual reminder to your family that almsgiving, even in tough economic times, will be repaid by our generous God a hundredfold?

A small donation from every family would go a long way to support Catholic Relief Services' mission to fight global hunger and poverty. Imagine if our one thousand families



all sacrificed \$10-20...what a difference we could make!

When Lent ends, it can be a meaningful family event to empty the Rice Bowl and count its contents as a family, say a prayer for those who will benefit from these alms, then turn in your donation. (It is very helpful if you turn your cash into a check, payable to STM. All our gifts will be joined and sent to CRS through the Diocese.)

Prayer Partners

Our prayerful support continues for those preparing to celebrate Sacraments in the Easter Season. Prayer cards are available outside the Faith Formation Office. There is a container on top of the bookcase for a card or note of good wishes you may wish delivered to your prayer partner.

Ten Good Reasons To Go To Mass

Reason #3:

We know we make mistakes

At every Mass, we have the opportunity to review the past week. We admit to God that we have sinned in thought, in word, in deed, in what we have done, and in what we have failed to do. We seek forgiveness, and we are assured that God still loves us. Before we receive Communion, we admit that we are not worthy, and we ask God to heal us. Going to Mass helps us to strengthen our commitment to live moral lives.

Stewardship & Development



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

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP Allows us to say "No" as well as "Yes"!

The climactic event of Jesus' passion and death is drawing closer; a time when the great confrontation between Jesus and the powers of darkness takes place. We know about the hideous trials that Jesus suffered. We know of His struggles.

Above all, no matter how difficult the trials were, we know Jesus was obedient to His Father and guided by faith.

The true Christian steward knows and accepts that life can't be lived in complacency. Just as Jesus was called, we too are called to die to self, bear more fruit, and to be ultimately raised up with Jesus. As disciples we are to follow Christ and try to live His life as our own. Even now, today and everyday . . .

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus brings discomfort to those who are comfortable. How does that make you feel? It makes me evaluate my patterns of sharing . . . and not just about money; and not just with my family and friends.

Catholic guilt is alive and well at St. Thomas More and in every Parish in existence. Does that mean we should stop doing what Jesus asks of us to avoid feelings of anger and/or guilt? No.

Many of our Parishioners live very comfortable, and sometimes affluent lifestyles. This is a good thing! God has blessed many of us and is happy to see us prosper. Should we feel guilty or angry about that? No.

It is no secret that there are many, in our own neighborhoods and beyond, who are not so prosperous and have fallen on hard times. This isn't because they haven't worked hard and tried to get ahead, but is often due to circumstances beyond their control. Should we turn our backs on the needs of strangers and only help our family and close friends? No.

Some years are worse than others with natural disasters such as hurricanes, tornadoes, fires and don't forget September 11. The economy itself is a disaster, isn't it? All of these things, when added to the existing needs of missionaries, charities and research of various serious illnesses, add up to a lot of "asks" don't they?

Is it a requirement for eternal life to say "yes" to every single opportunity for donating to a particular cause? No.

Is it healthy for one's heart and soul to get angry about the number of times an opportunity to donate to various causes is presented? No.

If we donated money every time there was a request, many would not be able to pay mortgages, buy food, etc. Some can, and want to always say yes. Others cannot, or choose not to do so, and that is OK. When mail solicitations are received, we pick and choose where we donate, hopefully without anger! Ditto Church.

As Christian stewards, it is our responsibility to continue the mission and ministry of Jesus. God calls us to be Church. Amen.

God understands the word "No" when justified. God requests calm discernment ~ not anger.

TOWERS OF FAITH Future Support & Estate Planning Options

Towers of Faith is a movement that has arisen due to the visionary leadership and generosity of several of our Parishioners. Again, we stress that this is not about the gift amount, but the love behind the gift.

These individuals (several anonymous) have included STM in their estate planning. This helps to ensure their ongoing support and a legacy for our Parish. *Towers of Faith* is our future support. Some examples of the various future planning vehicles are:



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

Any Parishioners who have already included STM in their estate plans are *Towers of Faith* participants. If you are interested, please contact us. Your participation is most welcome and appreciated!

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

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

Collection for Week of: March 21/22, 2009

Total	S	10.081.10
Children's envelopes		7.50
Offertory (Loose Collection)		1,005.00
Offertory*	\$	9,068.60
Number of Registered Households:		1,000

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

(Credit Card and Automatic Bank Account Withdrawals are posted at STM on the 5th and/or 20th of each month.)

Special thanks to our young donors using the Children's offertory envelopes for their Christian Stewardship efforts.

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: 758-4100 x100 or parishoffice@stmoside.org.

News from the Larger Church

Chrism Mass in San Diego—Thursday, April 2, 4:00pm at Good Shepherd Church, 8200 Gold Coast Dr., San Diego. The Bishop blesses the holy oils (oil of catechumens, oil of the sick, and holy chrism) at this annual liturgy, and representatives bring vessels of the oils back to their Parishes for presentation at the Holy Thursday liturgy and for use throughout the year. All are invited.

Palm Sunday Concert in Rancho Bernardo—Sunday, April 5, 4:00pm, San Rafael Catholic Church, 17252 Bernardo Center Dr., San Diego. "The Passion According to St. John" will be performed by the 12@NOW Vocal Ensemble (San Diego State University Department of Music). For more information, contact 858-487-4314.

Holy Week Silent Retreat at Mission San Luis Rey in Oceanside—Thursday, April 9 through Sunday, April 12. Living—Dying—Rising will be led my Br. Mark Schroeder, OFM. For more information, contact 760-757-3659 or www.sanluisrey.org.

St. Joseph Academy Twelfth Annual Spring Gala & Auction in Escondido—Saturday, April 25, at the California Center for the Arts in Escondido. St. Joseph Academy is located in San Marcos (formerly Sierra Madre Academy). Call John Mitchell 760-579-1601 for auction donor forms, and call the school office 760-305-8505 for tickets to the event.

St. Francis School Accepting Applications—St. Francis of Assisi Parish School is accepting applications for the 2009-2010 school year. We have a fully licensed preschool and are an accredited kindergarten through eighth grade school. Located in Vista just off the Highway 78, St. Francis School provides a strong Catholic religious education program, advanced classes, extracurricular activities, competitive school sports program, and after-school care. For more information, contact www.sfsvista.org or 760-630-7960.

Marriage Encounter in San Diego—If you tell your kids, "Wait for marriage," are they seeing something worth waiting for? Shine up your marriage on a Marriage Encounter Weekend—May 1-3. For more information, contact *broy2@san.rr.com*.



Detention Ministry Opportunities in Our Diocese—To find out more about serving on a team ministering to Catholic inmates, visit *www.diocese-sdiego.org/restore*, call Deacon Jim Walsh at 858-490-8375, or email *jwalsh@diocese-sdiego.org*

Religious Articles Sale in Escondido—Anthem Church Supply, 345 W. Grand Ave., Escondido, (800-882-8234), will be discounting all merchandise up to 25% off. They will be closing their retail store when the religious articles are all sold and concentrating their business on furnishings and supplies for churches.

Church of the Resurrection Catholic Gift Shop in Escondido—Open Tuesday-Friday, 9:00am-5:00pm and before and after Masses on the weekends. 1445 Conway Drive, Escondido. For more information, contact 760-747-2322.

Catholic Network of Volunteer Service (CNVS) Looking for Volunteers—Thousands of faith-based volunteer opportunities available from nearly 200 programs all over the world for all ages and walks of life. For more information, contact 800-543-5046 or visit www.cnvs.org.

Spring Cleaning? Call Fr. Joe's Villages—Did you know that every week, St. Vincent de Paul Village is in your Parish area to pick up usable discards from you and your neighbors? Those items are needed by Father Joe to assist him in helping over 3,400 neighbors in need each day. You can call 1-888-FatherJoe (1-888-328-4375) to arrange a free pickup and receive a tax deductible receipt (please call at least one week in advance) or donate online at *www.neighbor.org*.

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.

St. Francis Church Online Auction—You're invited to check out our online auction! St. Francis Church has joined *www.CatholicAuctionsOnline.com* as a new high-tech fund raiser. Items are added as they arrive and have a time limit for bidding. Register as a buyer and get started today!

Diocese of San Diego Diocesan Institute—has an ongoing schedule of classes and workshops. For more information, contact 858-490-8212 or *bcarr@diocese-sdiego.org*.

Natural Family Planning Classes—Great marriage insurance! A moral, healthy, and inexpensive way to plan your family. For current schedules and to register, visit *www.diocese-sdiego.org* and click on "Ministries" then "Marriage & Family Life."

Take a Stand for Life in Carlsbad—A group of North County Parishioners meets from 10:00 to 10:30am on the third Monday of each month to peacefully pray the rosary in front of the Carlsbad Planned Parenthood Clinic. The clinic is located at 1820 Marron Road, in the shopping center just west of Plaza Camino Real Mall. Please join us in our prayers for an end to abortion. For more information, call Jahna White at 760-586-6356.

Lenten Reconciliation Services at Local Parishes

Date	Time	Parish
Mon., Mar. 30	7:00pm	St. Elizabeth Seton, Carlsbad
Tue., Mar. 31	7:00pm	St. John, Encinitas
Wed., Apr. 1	7:30pm	St. Mary Star of the Sea, Oceanside
Mon., Apr. 6	6:30pm	St. Mark, San Marcos
Tue., Apr. 7	6:30pm	St. Francis, Vista



Parish Contacts

Updated 03/22/09

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

Pastoral Council Committees	Social Ministries Suzee Irwin 597-2706
Faith Formation & EvangelizationRory Griffin 414-3939	Blood Drive Linda Dicus 726-5081
Religious Education (Adults)	Bereavement Follow-up Support Linda Dicus 726-5081
Small Church Communities	Brother Benno's Deacon Tom & Patt Goeltz 727-8442
Little Rock Bible Studies	Christmas Angel Ministry
Religious Education (Children)Kathleen Bell 758-4100 x110	Congregations for Civic Action Sr. Maureen Brown 758-4100 x131
Liturgy of the Word for ChildrenCathy Meyer 598-7853	CPR/AED Classes Phil Goscienski 732-1414
Sacramental PreparationKathleen Bell 758-4100 x110	Disability Facilitation
Mid. School Youth Ministry Ron & Louise Briseno 758-4100 x153	Fraternity & Michaelle House
High School Youth Ministry Jeff & Gale Gibbons 726-7236	Huggy Buddies ProgramGale Gibbons 726-7236
Young Adult MinistryJoanna Mueller 726-5644	Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice
Evangelization	Interfaith Shelter Network Frank Coxon 599-8760
Vocations Deacon Tom & Patt Goeltz 758-4100 x130	Jail Ministry
RCIA/Adults	More's Workers
RCIA/Children Jeanette Marriott 434-1818	Prayer Request Line Pat Wong 806-1310
Liturgy	Norma Flanagan 630-0180
Altar Linen Care	Project Linus Mary Coxon 599-8760
Bereavement Facilitator	Pro-Life Activities Jane Kelleher 822-7041
Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs	Sick & Homebound (<i>Eucharist</i>) Jean McCloskey 643-2363
Eucharistic Adoration John O'Donnell 598-6003	Sister Parish Program Sr. Maureen Brown, 758-4100 x131
Interior Design Team	St. Bonaventure Mission Knights of Columbus 598-6003
Liturgical Ministries	Office SupportHenny Jocelyn 758-4100 x100
Liturgical Music	Chair Set-Up Lorraine Doering 758-4100 x102
Marriage & Family Life	General Support
FAMILIA	Kitchen Overseer
Family Services	STM Host ProgramHenny Jocelyn 758-4100 x100
Marriage PreparationRev. Michael Ratajczak 758-4100 x100	Development Council Committees
	Annual Catholic Appeal Flora Fallone 758-4100 x100
Parents & Tots	Capital Campaign
Widows & Widowers	New Construction Brian Leahey 598-5697
Parish Organizations & Events	Parish Membership Louise Briseno 726-4496
Golf Classic	Planned Giving
HistorianAnne Marshall 727-2668	Publicity/Public Relations
Knights of Columbus	Sacrificial Giving/TithingPaul Ibbetson 734-1051
Library	Scrip Sales
Spirited Seniors Stella Leué 726-3869	Stewardship
	Vehicle Donations
Women's GuildGermaine Wilmott 758-9949	
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Deacon Tom Goeltz 758-	\$1100 x130 or 727-8442
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Ron & Louise Briseno, Middle School Youth Ministers	758-4100 x153ronb@stmoside.org, louiseb@stmoside.org
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