

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

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

May 10, 2009 • Fifth Sunday of Easter

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 has helped to close the gap. It has been a very successful Campaign this year, but we are not "home" yet.

We still have a bit of way to go.

The "Did You Know?" Campaign will help us balance the budget.

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

What's Inside

Calendar Highlights.....	2
Mission Statement.....	2
Readings for the Week.....	3
Prayer Lists and Mass Intentions.....	3
Parish Contacts.....	10

Inserts: "Did You Know?" Envelope; Catholic Update

Pastor's Column

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

To Remain With Jesus

"In last Sunday's liturgy, a passage from the Gospel of John was used which was dominated by the expression: 'I am the good shepherd.' A parallel statement is used this Sunday as Jesus proclaims: 'I am the true vine.'

Jesus continues to speak to his disciples through imagery which they readily understood from their everyday experience, and with symbols which come from Jewish religious tradition. The language of shepherd came from the pastoral practice of Israel, but it also had links with the Jewish idea of a King Messiah. The vine is also a staple part of Israel's agricultural life. It carries within it the idea of life which flows into the branches of a spreading plant, and the fruit which depend upon that life in the branches. But it also summons up memories from Israel's religious past, a symbol for Israel and for peace and prosperity.

But we must be careful not to focus our attention too sharply on the image; this can lead us to lose the message. There are two parts of the argument. There is Jesus' claim to be the giver of life, the fulfillment of all that was best in Israel, its ultimate hope for

(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 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)

peace and prosperity, but there is also the demand that the disciple 'remain with' Jesus. He uses this expression no less than six times. Of course, it is because Jesus claims to be not only the vine, but 'the true' vine, that the latter demand is so urgent.

Jesus is the source of life, peace and prosperity for all who would be his disciples. But, as always through the Gospel, Jesus admits that behind his life-giving presence is a Father. Like a vine-dresser, the Father must cut away those who claim to have their life in and through Jesus, but whose fruits deny the values of Jesus and his Father. We have already been formed in our Christian lives by Jesus' word. We have been prepared to bear fruit, but even in this situation we are unable to set out on our own. As Jesus, the vine, only exists to make the Father known, so must it also be with the Christian disciple. We pray so often 'thy kingdom come, thy will be done,' but often it is our own kingdom and our own will that we seek.

No matter how well we have been 'pruned already by means of the word,' we must remain intimately linked to Jesus. We must not set off on our own mission. The person of Jesus must be our model and our inspiration. He is the vine. Without him our skills turn in upon ourselves, we wither, die, and must be thrown away. Fruitfulness in spreading God's kingdom depends upon our accepting the word of Jesus and then allowing it to be nourished by our continued contact with him in our sacramental life, our Christian community and in our intimacy with him through prayer.

To remain in Jesus means to be his disciples. In this way we are associated with the fulfillment of all that Israel promised. Now we have the possibility of the full possession of the Spirit, rendering glory to God as we work for his kingdom, rather than our own."

—Rev. Francis J. Molony,
The Gospel of the Lord—Year B

F. Mike

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.

Eucharistic Adoration



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

Exposition of the Eucharist on First Fridays.
Next date: Friday, June 5.

*For more information, contact
the Parish Office at 760-758-4100 x100.*

Facing Surgery or a Serious Illness?

If you, a family member or close friend is facing surgery or has been diagnosed with a serious illness, the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick can be powerful and comforting.

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

Readings for the Week Ahead

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

Sunday, May 10 (53)

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:26-31
Psalm 22:26-28,30-32
1 John 3:18-24
John 15:1-8

Monday, May 11 (285)

Acts 14:5-18
Psalm 115:1-5,15-16
John 14:21-26

Tuesday, May 12 (286)

Nereus and Achilleus, martyrs;

Pancras, martyr
Acts 14:19-28
Psalm 145:10-13ab,21
John 14:27-31a

Wednesday, May 13 (287)

Our Lady of Fatima

Acts 15:1-6
Psalm 122:1-5
John 15:1-8

Thursday, May 14 (546)

Matthias, Apostle

Acts 1:15-17,20-26
Psalm 113:1-8
John 15:9-17

Friday, May 15 (289)

Isidore

Acts 15:22-31
Psalm 57:8-10,12
John 15:12-17

Saturday, May 16 (290)

Acts 16:1-10
Psalm 100:1-3,5
John 15:18-21

Sunday, May 17 (56)

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:25-26,34-35,44-48
Psalm 98:1-4
1 John 4:7-10
John 15:9-17

Mass Intentions

Saturday, May 9, 5:00pm
Frances Hoogstraet ☩

Sunday, May 10, 8:30am
Carl Streling

Sunday, May 10, 10:30am
Celia Nunez

Tuesday, May 12, 8:15am
Mother's Day Triduum

Wednesday, May 13, 8:15am
Mother's Day Triduum

Thursday, May 14, 8:15am
Mother's Day Triduum

Friday, May 15, 8:15am
Mary & Steve Montella ☩

Saturday, May 16, 5:00pm
Isabelle Browne ☩

Sunday, May 17, 8:30am
Colleen Bechtold

Sunday, May 17, 10:30am
Mary Ann Wilson

Prayer List

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

Mary Alexander
Mary Baker
Patricia Barbour
Cindra Bell
Regina Bentz
Beatrice Brooks & Family
Janet Brown
Steve Brown
Irene Caligiuri
Shelby Campbell
Paul Cipowski
James Coleman
Thomas Cornwell & Family
Karen Flaharty Daley
Margie Daniels & Family
Cecilia DeSimone
The Charlie Doherty Family
Linda Dossman
Pat Egan
Kathryn Ernst
The Fiore Family
Peggy & Jack Fischer
Larry Fisk
Kathryn Franklin
Lyn Friedman
Carmen Garcia
Bob Godley
Rick Gonzalez
Paula Gurrera
Jack Haeffelin
Anita Hage
Susan Hallahan
Mary Hannan
The Harker Family
Rita Harnacker
The Hayden Family
Barry Henwood
Kristin Hinds-Sweet
Cynthia Horner
Brenda Johnson
Sue Johnston
Colleen Kaup
Paul Kennedy
Debbie Kinny
George Kleekamp
Carol Kope
Sr. Anne Kremenik
Helen Kuhn
Lillian Lachance
The Lamelin Family
Bernie Lanzrath
Brandon LeBlanc
Dave & Stella Leué
Krista Leué
The Lindroth Family
Cassandra Loretto
Lauren Loretto
The Lundell & Shaughnessy Families
Jackie Lynn
James MacArthur
Scott Macfarlane
Michael Martin
Ken Mauro
Mary Jane McCoy

Bob McWilliams
Carol Michael
Carroll Tom & Nona Miller
Howard Montgomery
Nancy Moore
Margie Myers
R. Northrup
The O'Brien Family
Helen O'Connell
Lety Orneles
Lupe Casas Pelletier
Helen Pingtella
Anne Post
Otila Quiroz
Janet Raiman
Isabel Rameriez
Deana Reynolds
Dort Riley
Joanne Robinson
Sr. Loyola Romey
Richard Rossmassler
Dorothy Rouse
Rose Rowland
The Russo Family
Nick Soltau
Ed Sox
Dorothy and Ray Staehr
Carl Streling
Arnie Velasco
Dominic Vienna, Jr.
Vanessa Vitiello-Koble
Kevin Watson-Graff
Ed Wesel
Marilyn Wesel
John Whitton
The Eric Williams Family

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,
USMC
St Sgt Joseph Duffy, USAF
Staff Sgt. Julian Fyffe, USMC
MSGT Steve Gallegos, USMC
Pvt. 2 Jess Phillips, US Army
Julian Torres, USMC

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

THE MYSTERY OF THE VINE Liturgy & Music

Page 6

The Children's Bible in a Nutshell Faith Formation

Page 7

Loving in Deed and in Truth Christian Stewardship

Page 8

Calendar Highlights

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

The Week Ahead

May 10 Happy Mothers' Day!
May 10 Liturgy of the Word for Children at 8:30am and 10:30am Masses

The Month Ahead

May 13 Women's Guild North County Deanery Lunch Meeting
May 17 Liturgy of the Word for Children at 8:30am Mass
May 17 RE.A.CH Classes at Church
May 18 Women's Guild Luncheon Meeting with Election of Officers
May 21-24 Adult Choir Tour to Napa, California
May 23-24 First Communion at 5:00pm and 10:30am Masses
May 28 Project Linus Coffee
May 31 Confirmation

The Year Ahead

June 6 Women's Guild Lunch at Shadowridge Country Club
June 12-14 Parish Campout
July 20-24 Crocodile Dock— Vacation Bible School
Aug 23 First Annual Pastor's Dinner
Apr 30 '10 Eleventh Annual Golf Classic

Questions? Contact Henny at 760-758-4100 x100 or hennyj@stmoside.org.

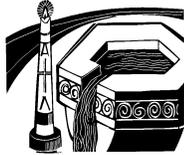
Welcome to Newly Registered Parishioners

Olga Crane
Jose & Jessica Seda & family-to be

Announcing the Baptism of

Loren Ishmael Guerra
Cash Michael Hutchins
Savannah Roberts Thielemann
on May 10, 2009

*Our Christian community
welcomes you with great joy!*



Little Rock Bible Study—Parables of the Kingdom

Some of the most memorable teachings of Jesus were delivered as parables and are found in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. This study explores those parables crafted by Mark and then turns attention to the same parables as they appear in Matthew with a slightly different twist. The study begins on Wednesday, May 13, 9:00am or Thursday, May 14, 7:00pm, for six weeks. Please join us.

*For more information, contact Masako Streling,
760-295-2594 or mstr0619@cox.net*

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.

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

STM Scrip 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) _____

Ralph's Card—Please visit Scrip table for flyer.

Please send me a Food 4 Less Card

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

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!

2009 Annual Catholic Appeal Now Underway!

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

Pledge Total to Date: \$40,639.15

Households Responding: 295

Average Gift per Household: \$137.75

Your support is greatly appreciated!

—Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor

Spirited Seniors Leadership Help Wanted!

Qualifications: age 50+ male or female with energy and ideas. Our goal is to enhance the spiritual, educational, and social lives of our members.

Stella Leué has been our leader for twelve years, but she is moving out of the area and will be sorely missed.

Our eleven-member Board will stay in place to help with the transition to new leadership, but we need a new chairperson (or, even better, a team of two co-chairpersons) to take the helm for the coming year. If you like to lead, delegate, and you have some creative ideas for future events, we're praying for the Spirit to move you.

*For more information,
call Judy or Gerry Buoniconti 760-758-5113.*

Have Time for a Little Extra Laundry?

If you would like to take on a small task that is very helpful to the Parish and rewarding for you, please consider joining the group that launders the small altar linens every week. The more people in the group, the less often each one needs to do the laundry! Training is provided. For more information, please contact Marge Gillen at 760-630-1929.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

*Take a break and
join us this Monday for*

ISLAND NIGHT

May 11 • 7:00-8:30pm

Also, Pay-It-Forward \$5 Payoff kicks off this night!

*And while you're at it...
take another break from life and spend some
time with Jesus and friends*

2nd Wednesday Adoration

with Billy & Co.

May 13, 2009

7:00pm Blessed Sacrament • 8:30pm Pick Up at Starbucks

?? Call Gale at 760-726-7236 ??

Get on the Bus Update

The Get On the Bus trip which was scheduled for May 8 has been postponed until June 26th. The health officials for all the California prisons have declared a “lock down because of the H1N1(Swine flu) virus.”

Please keep the Get On the Bus organizers in your prayers as they reschedule about 48 buses and all of the families involved.

Most importantly, please keep the children in your prayers. They will now have to deal with another disappointment in their lives, perhaps without fully understanding why this has happened.

This past weekend, all the back packs and comfort bags for the children and caregivers were made ready and will be stored until June. Our parishioners who baked cookies will keep them in their freezer for June! All of the items you have donated will still be used! Thanks again for your generous donation of monies and items for this most important project! We will prevail!

In addition, please keep Vanessa Ferraro in your prayers. She was our bus coordinator but had to resign last month in order to attend to her father who is dying. You may recall that Vanessa’s 23-year-old son was killed in an automobile accident several months ago. Prior to that, her mother died in October. If you were in communication with Vanessa and have not heard from her, I apologize and know you now understand the circumstances that have caused some lack of communication. Please call Sr. Maureen (760-758-4100 x131) if you wish to continue being involved with Get on the Bus, now or in the future.

Women’s Guild News

Luncheon Meeting—Monday, May 18, 11:00am, on the lower level of the Parish Center. Cost is \$7. the election of new officers will take place! Followed by a short video of the past year’s events! Please RSVP to Mary Vernaci at 760-727-2318 or Germaine Wilmott at 760-758-9949.

Mass & Luncheon Meeting—The Women’s Guild will be hosting the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women on Wednesday, May 13. It will begin with a Mass at 11:00am, followed by a luncheon and meeting. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Germaine Wilmott at 760-758-9949.

Annual Installation Luncheon—Saturday, June 6, 11:00am at Shadowridge Country Club. In addition to installing the new Board of Directors for the Women’s Guild, we will be having the drawing for the beautiful quilts that various members have made and donated.

We will be selling luncheon tickets after all Masses until May 30. The cost is \$20. It is always a great time to show our support for the new crew and our gratitude for those who have worked so hard this year.

If you have any questions, please contact Suzee Irwin at 760-597-2706 or Germaine Wilmott at 760-758-9949.

Parish Potluck

Please join us on Friday, May 22, at 6:00pm on the lower level of the Parish Center for a potluck with good food and fellowship. Bring one of your favorite main dishes, salads, or desserts. A bottle of wine would also be appreciated. Last, but not least, bring your favorite date. If you don’t have a date, come anyway! Please RSVP to Germaine Wilmott at 760-758-9949.

Tenth Anniversary Golf Classic

The May 1 events were all a resounding success! Our Golf Committee wishes to thank everyone who joined us at Fallbrook Golf Club, Boomers! Vista for Miniature Golf, and for our wonderful evening festivities at STM!

Special thanks to the *numerous* volunteers who helped on all fronts and behind the scenes to make this anniversary celebration such a memorable one!

We are working on the final accounting for this record-breaking year, and we will have news of the donation amount to STM very soon!

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

First Annual Pastor’s Dinner ~ Sunday, August 23

- ◆ **This new event replaces the previous “Dinner for 10” prepared and hosted by Fr. Mike. Oh what a night!**
- ◆ Seating for 100 at \$250 per seat ~ **Only 10 seats left!** (\$125 tax deductible)
- ◆ Delicious dinner at Shadowridge Country Club, hors d’oeuvres, open bar, and desserts.
- ◆ The Alley Cats entertaining!
- ◆ Details at: www.stmoside.org/golf.
- ◆ Sign up today on the Plaza or call the office at 760-758-4100 x120 or email chriss@stmoside.org.



Feeling Lucky? Buy a Chance on a Quilt!

The Women’s Guild Quilters Group are at it again, this time with “Quilts Galore III,” which features twelve lap-sized and nap-sized creations. The raffle will take place on June 6 at the Women’s Guild Installation Luncheon. The border of the cover letter you received with your tickets pictures a small portion of each quilt. For a full viewing of the quilts, come to the May 18 Women’s Guild Luncheon, or stop by the tables on the Plaza on Sunday, May 24, or Sunday, May 31. Please return your ticket stubs and money no later than Sunday, May 31. Please make checks payable to St. Thomas More Women’s Guild. Your support is greatly appreciated!

For further information, contact Nancy Wozniak at 760-729-0782 or Nell McGlone at 760-726-5211.

No Home or Food for Your Family—Just Imagine!

Our ministry answers the call by Jesus to feed the hungry in our time and neighborhood. The North County Solutions for Change women and children’s shelter needs volunteers for meal preparation, servers, and donations (food and paper goods). Any help you can provide is most welcome!

Many thanks to those who have stepped up to supply seven of the monthly dinners!

These dates are still available for dinner adoption:

August 23
September 27
November 29
December 27



Contact: Paul & Kalei Mendiola at 760-945-9042 or kaleiann@sbcglobal.net.

Liturgy & Music

Worship God

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



THE MYSTERY OF THE VINE

excerpted from Pope John Paul II's *Christi Fideles Laici*, 1988

The Sacred Scriptures use the image of the vine in various ways. In a particular case, the vine serves to express the Mystery of the People of God. From this perspective which emphasizes the Church's internal nature, the lay faithful are seen not simply as laborers who work in the vineyard, but as themselves being a part of the vineyard. Jesus says, "I am the vine, you are the branches" (Jn 15:5).

The prophets in the Old Testament used the image of the vine to describe the chosen people. Israel is God's vine, the Lord's own work, the joy of his heart: "I have planted you a choice vine" (Jer 2:21); "Your mother was like a vine in a vineyard transplanted by the water, fruitful and full of branches by reason of abundant water" (Ez 19:10); "My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines..." (Is 5:1-2).

Jesus himself once again takes up the symbol of the vine and uses it to illustrate various aspects of the Kingdom of God: "A man planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a pit for the winepress, and built a tower and let it out to tenants and went into another country" (Mk 12:1; cf. Mt 21:28 ff.).

John the Evangelist invites us to go further and leads us to discover the mystery of the vine: it is the figure and symbol not only of the People of God, but of Jesus himself. He is the vine and we, his disciples, are the branches. He is the "true vine," to which the branches are grafted to have life (cf. Jn 15:1ff.).

The Second Vatican Council, making reference to the various biblical images that help to reveal the mystery of the Church, proposes again the image of the vine and the branches: "Christ is the true vine who gives life and fruitfulness to the branches, that is, to us. Through the Church we abide in Christ, without whom we can do nothing" (Jn 15:1-5). The Church herself, then, is the vine in

the gospel. She is mystery because the very life and love of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are the gift gratuitously offered to all those who are born of water and the Holy Spirit (cf. Jn 3:5), and called to relive the very communion of God and to manifest it and communicate it in history (mission): "In that day," Jesus says, "you will know that I am in my Father and you in me, and I in you" (Jn 14:20).

Only from inside the Church's mystery of communion is the "identity" of the lay faithful made known, and their fundamental dignity revealed. Only within the context of this dignity can their vocation and mission in the Church and in the world be defined

...Vatican Council II has invited us to contemplate the mystery of the Church through biblical images which bring to light the reality of the Church as a communion with its inseparable dimensions: the communion of each Christian with Christ and the communion of all Christians with one another. There is the sheepfold, the flock, the vine, the spiritual building, the Holy City. Above all, there is the image of the Body as set forth by the Apostle Paul. Its doctrine finds a pleasing expression once again in various passages of the Council's documents. In its turn, the Council has looked again at the entire history of salvation and has reposed the image of the Church as the People of God: "It has pleased God to make people holy and to save them, not merely as individuals without any mutual bonds, but by making them into a single people, a people which acknowledges him in truth and serves him in holiness." From its opening lines, the *Constitution Lumen Gentium* summarizes this doctrine in a wonderful way: "The Church in Christ is a kind of sacrament, that is, a sign and instrument of intimate union with God and of the unity of all the human race."



Music Ministry Next Week

MAY 16/17

5:00pm Mass

Cantor

8:30am Mass

Cantor

10:30am Mass

MNM Music Team

Faith Formation

Teach and Live the Gospel

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

A child was asked to write a book report on the entire Bible:

The Children's Bible in a Nutshell

In the beginning, which occurred near the start, there was nothing but God, darkness, and some gas.

The Bible says, 'The Lord thy God is one, but I think He must be a lot older than that.

Anyway, God said, 'Give me a light!' and someone did. Then God made the world.

He split the Adam and made Eve. Adam and Eve were naked, but they weren't embarrassed because mirrors hadn't been invented yet.

Adam and Eve disobeyed God by eating one bad apple, so they were driven from the Garden of Eden.....

Not sure what they were driven in though, because they didn't have cars.

Adam and Eve had a son, Cain, who hated his brother as long as he was Abel.

Pretty soon all of the early people died off, except for Methuselah, who lived to be like a million or something.

One of the next important people was Noah, who was a good guy, but one of his kids was kind of a Ham.

Noah built a large boat and put his family and some animals on it. He asked some other people to join him, but they said they would have to take a rain check.

After Noah came Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Jacob was more famous than his brother, Esau,

because Esau sold Jacob his birthmark in exchange for some pot roast.

Jacob had a son named Joseph who wore a really loud sports coat.

Another important Bible guy is Moses, whose real name was Charlton Heston.

Moses led the Israel Lights out of Egypt and away from the evil Pharaoh after God sent ten plagues on Pharaoh's people. These plagues included frogs, mice, lice, bowels, and no cable.

God fed the Israel Lights every day with manicotti. Then he gave them His Top Ten Commandments.

These include: don't lie, cheat, smoke, dance, or covet your neighbor's stuff.

Oh, yeah, I just thought of one more: Humor thy father and thy mother.

One of Moses' best helpers was Joshua, who was the first Bible guy to use spies.

Joshua fought the battle of Geritol and the fence fell over on the town.

After Joshua came David. He got to be king by killing a giant with a slingshot. He had a son named Solomon who had about 300 wives and 500 porcupines. My teacher says he was wise, but that doesn't sound very wise to me.

After Solomon there were a bunch of major league prophets.

One of these was Jonah, who was swallowed by a big whale and then barfed up on the shore.

There were also some minor league prophets, but I guess we don't have to worry about them.

After the Old Testament came the New Testament. Jesus is the star of The New.

He was born in Bethlehem in a barn. (I wish I had been born in a barn too, because my mom is always saying to me, "Close the door! Were you born in a barn?" It would be nice to say, "As a matter of fact, I was.")

During His life, Jesus had many arguments with sinners like the Pharisees and the Democrats.

Jesus also had twelve opossums.

The worst one was Judas Asparagus. Judas was so evil that they named a terrible vegetable after him.

Jesus was a great man. He healed many leopards and even preached to some Germans on the Mount.

But the Democrats and all those guys put Jesus on trial before Pontius the Pilot. Pilot didn't stick up for Jesus.

He just washed his hands instead.

Anyways, Jesus died for our sins, then came back to life again.

He went up to Heaven but will be back at the end of the Aluminum. His return is foretold in the book of Revolution.

Peanut Butter and Jelly Update

2009 GOAL: 365 jars
TOTAL to date: 339 jars

We will exceed our Annual Goal BIG TIME this year!



Stewardship & Development

Serve God's People

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

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP *Loving in Deed and in Truth*

This fifth Sunday of Easter happens to also be the day we, as Americans, celebrate Mother's Day. It is fitting, then, that we heed the advice of St. John today that good Christian stewards lead lives of deeds and truth—and not simply just by talking about these things.

Mothers love their children with endless depth. Mothers stretch their very limits to nurture, educate and care for children—and this care and concern doesn't end simply because the children grow into adulthood. The love continues to grow.

In today's Gospel, Jesus points out that God is glorified when a disciple, grafted in Christ, produces abundantly and bears much fruit. As Christian disciples, mothers care for their families, and set the example for children to become responsible adults who return God's gifts with gratitude.

This doesn't only apply to biological mothers, but to the many who care for others such as students, patients, friends, relatives, and those they do not even know...but they know they need care.

All of these women deserve our respect, love and gratitude. They heard the call of Jesus in their life circumstance. They continue to inspire and encourage so many by their actions. Lives are molded by their positive examples.

Any mother will tell you that obstacles and problems are a part of life. We learn that happiness comes not when we get rid of our problems (not going to happen in this lifetime) but when we see these as opportunities to practice patience and to learn from them.

It might just be that the most basic principle of spiritual life is that our problems are the best places to practice keeping our hearts open. Christian stewards know all about open hearts. In the Christian sense, a steward is the manager of God's affairs on earth. These are not always easy.



Whereas a 'volunteer' can just say, "I quit!" when the going gets tough, as Christian stewards we know that quitting is not an option when it comes to God's work. Just as a mother doesn't 'quit' her duties of motherhood, we don't say no to God.

Just as mothers recognize the gifts of their children, and help to direct them accordingly, so, too, do we grow to understand God's gifts to us and His Will for us. And we proceed accordingly.

There is no place for waste when it comes to our gifts from God. We are God's branches and it is our responsibility to bear and tend to God's fruit. Thank you for giving more than lip service!

When the going gets tough, Christian stewards find a way to continue.

A WAY TO GIVE ~ A WAY TO RECEIVE



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

Our Planned Giving 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.

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

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: May 2/3, 2009

Number of Registered Households:		1,000
Offertory*	\$	14,993.51
Offertory (Loose Collection)		1,000.00
Children's envelopes		2.50
Total	\$	15,996.01

* Offertory Envelopes, Credit Card Withdrawals, Automatic Checking or Savings Account Deductions (Credit Card and Automatic Bank Account Withdrawals)

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

Prayer and Spirituality Presentation in Carlsbad—*Open the Door of Your Heart and Let Jesus In*, presented by Sr. Catherine Marie, OCD, and hosted by St. Elizabeth Seton Women's Auxiliary. Monday, May 11 at 10:00am, at St. Elizabeth Seton Church in Carlsbad. For more information, call Jan Feiner at 760-603-9103.

Diocesan Workshops in May and June—Various topics related to religious education. For details, contact www.diocesediago.org/evangelization.htm or 858-490-8230.

27th Annual Dinner Dance, Gala, and Auction to Benefit Whispering Winds Catholic Conference Center and Camp—Saturday, May 16, 5:00-11:30pm at the Marriott Mission Valley, San Diego. For more details and reservations, contact 619-464-1479.

Weight Management Program in San Marcos—Tired of constantly struggling with your weight? The *Light Weigh* is continuing at St. Mark Church. Join us Monday, May 18, at 7:00pm in the JPII Center for a free video informational orientation to the program, a twelve-week video series/Catholic Bible Study, where you will learn a new approach to eating and prayer. *What have you got to lose?*

Baccalaureate Mass & Reception for Graduating SDSU Students and Families—Thursday, May 21, 6:00pm, SDSU Newman Center, 5855 Hardy Ave., San Diego. We invite you and your parents to join the SDSU Catholic Campus Ministry in celebrating your accomplishment (caps and gowns are not required). For more information, contact 619-583-9181.

Catholic Thrive Event for Young Adults in Anaheim—Join others from around the country for world-class speakers and music, Mass, reconciliation, gala dance, and service opportunities for this celebration for Catholic young adults and singles of all ages at the Anaheim Marriott on May 22-24. For more information, visit www.catholicthrive.com.

Tony Melendez to Perform in San Marcos—The successful toe-pickin' guitar player and vocalist born without arms and a club foot will give a concert at St. Mark Parish in San Marcos in Friday, June 12. For more information, contact Pat at 760-744-5429.

Notre Dame Club's Thirteenth Annual Charity Golf Classic in Rancho Bernardo—June 14-15, at the Country Club of Rancho Bernardo. Features guest speaker Ryan Grant of the Green Bay Packers. For more information, visit www.ndsandiego.org.

Gran Fiesta in San Marcos—A great alternative to the San Diego County Fair! Admission and parking are free to this event that is packed with rides, food, games, prizes, dancing, and entertainment fit for all ages! Convenient North County location at St. Mark Parish at 1147 Discovery St. in San Marcos.

Marriage Encounter Weekends—For more information, contact broy2@san.rr.com.

Natural Family Planning Classes—For more information, contact daveandcheryl@cox.net or 619-303-5053.

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.sfs-vista.org or 760-630-7960.



Musical Instruments Needed for School in the Holy Land—The Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, an organization whose mission is to preserve the Christian presence in the Holy Land, is helping a Catholic school in Jordan by seeking new or used musical instruments for students in music development programs at the school. If you have musical instruments (please no tubas!) you would like to donate, please contact Chuck or Ede Radloff at 858-451-1079, and we will arrange to pick up the instruments and ship them to the Catholic school in Jordan.

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.

Pilgrimages in 2010

United Arab Emirates & Egypt

Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Cairo, Giza, Memphis, Aswan, and Luxor;
(includes a three-day cruise on the Nile)

January 4-15, 2010 • \$3,975 per person, double occupancy

Hosted by **Rev. Michael Ratajczak**

For detailed brochure and all information, contact:
michaelratajczak@hotmail.com or 619-368-9939

Imperial Splendors & Oberammergau

Munich, Germany; Prague, Czech Republic; Bratislava, Slovakia;
Budapest, Hungary; Vienna, Melk, and Salzburg, Austria;
Oberammergau, Germany

(the Passion Play is only performed every 10 years)

September 2-14, 2010 • \$2,966* per person, double occupancy

*Land tour cost; airfare to be determined in October 2009,
estimated to be about \$1,300.

Hosted by **Rev. Michael Ratajczak & Rev. Pedro Rivera**

For detailed brochure and all information, contact:
Fr. Mike: michaelratajczak@hotmail.com or 619-368-9939
Fr. Pedro: privera@stfrancis-vista.org or 760-945-8000



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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 05/10/09

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 Available
 Interior Design Team Pat & Phil Goscieski 732-1414
 Liturgical Ministries Douglas Lynn 758-4100 x140
 Liturgical Music Douglas Lynn 758-4100 x140

Marriage & Family Life Available
 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

Parish Organizations & Events Available
 Golf Classic John Murphy 497-6117
 Historian Anne Marshall 727-2668
 Knights of Columbus James Baker 630-2471
 Library Chris James 598-5881
 Spirited Seniors Available
 Judy & Jerry Buoniconti 758-5113
 Widows & Widowers of North County Carol Kope 726-0533
 Jackie Cohen 726-4343
 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
 Faith Works Sr. Maureen Brown 758-4100 x131
 CPR/AED Classes Phil Goscieski 732-1414
 Disability Facilitation Ann Eriksson 599-7151
 Fraternity & Michaelle House Carmen Tamayo 591-3554
 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 822-7041
 Sick & Homebound (*Eucharist*) Jean McCloskey 643-2363
 Sister Parish Program Sr. Maureen Brown, 758-4100 x131
 Social Justice 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

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 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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