

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

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

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

October 25, 2009 • Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Pastor's Column

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

President Barack Obama and the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize

There has been no shortage of opinion, perspective, and commentary regarding President Obama's award of the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize.

It is important, first, to know the official Vatican reaction and, secondly, the reaction of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Delivered by the Holy See's lead spokesman, Jesuit Fr. Federico Lombardi, here is the statement presented on behalf of Pope Benedict XVI and the Vatican:

The awarding of the Nobel Prize for Peace to President Obama is greeted with appreciation in the Vatican, in light of the commitment demonstrated by the President for the promotion of peace in the international arena, and in particular also recently in favor of nuclear disarmament. It's hoped that this very important recognition will further encourage that commitment, which is difficult but fundamental for the future of humanity, so that the desired results will be obtained.

Cardinal Francis George of Chicago, the President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), gave this statement:

In the name of the Catholic Bishops of the United States, I would like to offer congratulations to President Barack Obama on his receiving the Nobel Peace Prize. As he has graciously said, much of the work of realizing a more peaceful and just world for all persons and nations remains to be done; but the prize was given because as President of the United States he has already changed the international conversation.

In our country, the remarkable and historic achievement of his election has changed the relationships between men and women of all races. The rich diversity of United States society is now more surely anchored in a national unity that is better able to foster the peace we all are challenged to pursue. Our prayer is that almighty God will bless the President and his family.

On the First Sunday of October, in the Catholic Church, we celebrate **Respect Life Sunday**. This celebration provides an opportunity for us to be mindful that, as Catholics, we are a "pro-life" people. "Pro-life," for us, means that we are a people who are creating a culture of life in our society that encompasses all people, and all situations, from womb to tomb.

(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;
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: 8:30am 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)*

In my Pastor's Columns this month, I have been keeping to the "pro-life" theme in the hope of reminding everyone that to be "pro-life" is not just to be "anti-abortion." If we are "pro-life," we are concerned about a variety of issues that include abolition of the death penalty, universal health care coverage, nuclear disarmament, ending the violence of war as a solution to differences, assisting those who are on the fringes of society for a variety of reasons, end of life issues, etc.

Wherever we see "culture of death" attitudes, we need to name them and denounce them. Wherever we see "culture of life" attitudes, we need to name them and applaud them. The reality is that we find almost all segments of our society with a mix of "culture of death" and "culture of life" attitudes. Our two major political parties exemplify this the best, and indeed, most of us Catholics, find ourselves living with "the mix" in our own personal views as well.

There are those in all circles of Catholic life who see the "pro-life" stance in terms of only "anti-abortion," and it is all or nothing. It is this one issue only that matters at this time. This debate among Catholics is now raging at all levels in the Church.

I am of the opinion that we must embrace all life issues at the same time. Denounce "death" where we see it, and applaud "life" where we see it. As we become more life-centered in other areas of society, I believe, the desire and need to protect "pro-choice" laws will decrease.

With all this in mind, we need to denounce the policies of President Obama because of his protection of "pro-choice" laws, but we need to applaud him for his efforts in regard to nuclear disarmament. Is this not a laudable effort, to rid the world of nuclear weapons? Our global community now has the ability to destroy our world as we know it. Is this not an important "pro-life" issue? I believe it is. So does the Vatican and so does the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The phrase in the statement of Cardinal George is crucial: "...the prize was given because as President of the United States he has already changed the international conversation..."

This phrase is important, because as Catholics, from day one, 2,000 years ago, we have been involved in an international conversation. The Catholic Church is a "multi-national" organization and we have always been one. We appreciate, cherish, and support all efforts in which we, as a global community, are willing to work together. This is what the Vatican and the USCCB acknowledge in the preliminary work of the Obama Administration.

We, as Americans, may not be able to see the shift as clearly, but the leaders and citizens of other countries in our global village see an America that is now more willing to deeply engage with other countries in the work of protecting our Planet, Earth.

This is a very "Catholic" approach, and indeed, is a "pro-life" concern.

As Disciples of the Lord Jesus, let us continue our ministry on behalf of life, a "culture of life" that embraces all from womb to tomb.

F. Mike

Readings for the Week Ahead

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

Sunday, October 25 (149)
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 31:7-9

Psalms 126:1-6

Hebrews 5:1-6

Mark 10:46-52

Monday, October 26 (479)

Romans 8:12-17

Psalms 68:2,4,6-7,20-21

Luke 13:10-17

Tuesday, October 27 (480)

Romans 8:18-25

Psalms 126:1-6

Luke 13:18-21

Wednesday, October 28 (666)

Simon and Jude, Apostles

Ephesians 2:19-22

Psalms 19:2-5

Luke 6:12-16

Thursday, October 29 (482)

Romans 8:31b-39

Psalms 109:21-22,26-27,30-31

Luke 13:31-35

Friday, October 30 (483)

Romans 9:1-5

Psalms 147:12-15,19-20

Luke 14:1-6

Saturday, October 31 (484)

Romans 11:1-2a,11-12,25-29

Psalms 94:12-15,17-18

Luke 14:1-7,11

Sunday, November 1 (152)

All Saints

Revelation 7:2-4,9-14

Psalms 24:1-6

1 John 3:1-3

Matthew 5:1-12a

Prayer List

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

Mary Alexander
Mary Baker
Patricia Barbour
Tom & Cathy Bartholomew
Cindra Bell
The Belter Family
John Bennici
Regina Bentz
Robert Bonanno
Beatrice Brooks & Family
Monica Broussard
Janet Brown
Roseanne Burg
Herman Calandro
Shelby Campbell
Tony Cavaleri
Paul Cipowski
Marilyn Clarke
James Coleman
Thomas Cornwell & Family
Jean Crowell
Karen Flaharty Daley
Margie Daniels & Family
Julie Desco & Family
Cecilia DeSimone
Linda Dossman
Kathryn Ernst
The Fiore Family
Peggy & Jack Fischer
Ryan Flum
Kathryn Franklin
Joe Freire
Carmen Garcia
Peter Gavin
Bob Godley
Rick Gonzalez
Anita Hage
Susan Hallahan
The Harker Family
Rita Harnacker
Barry Henwood
Cynthia Horner
Sue Johnston
Colleen Kaup
Darleen Kelch
Paul Kennedy
Debbie Kinney
George Kleekamp
Sr. Anne Kremenik
Helen Kuhn
Lillian Lachance
The Lamelin Family
Bernie Lanzrath
Rick Laver
Brandon LeBlanc
David Leue
Cassandra Loretto
Lauren Loretto
Tony Lugo
James MacArthur
Ken Mauro
Helen McCullough
Tom McGeary
Bob McWilliams
Carol Michael
Carroll Tom & Nona Miller
Howard Montgomery
Nancy Moore
Margie Myers
Liliana & Luis Nagera
C'gourney Nakamoto

Norberto Navvarrow
R. Northrup
Helen O'Connell
Leticia Orantes & Nolberto Navarro
Leticia Ornelas & Patrick Nakla
The Palmer Family
Lupe Casas Pelletier
Helen Pingtella
Brandon Portman
Anne Post
Lana Marie Pressman
Otila Quiroz
Jane Radilinski
Janet Raiman
Betty Rameriz
Cecy Rameriz
Isabel Ramirez
Dort Riley
Sr. Loyola Romey
Dorothy Rouse
Rose Rowland
The Russo Family
Nancy Scali
Richard Sikora
Nick Soltau
Ed Sox
Gilda Spiegl
Dorothy and Ray Staehr
Joan Stringer
Maria Surmenidis
Donna & Hope Toth
Stephen Toth, Jr.
Arnie Velasco
Dominic Vienna, Jr.
Vanessa Vitiello-Koble
Kevin Watson-Graff
Ed Wesel
Marilyn Wesel
Terry Westlake
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:

Gunnery Sgt. Fernando Andrade, Jr.
Capt. Sean Barnes, USAF
1st Lt. Jeffrey Bauer, USMC
Pfc John Brandone
Capt. Gregory Day, USMC
Lance Corporal Brandon Doyle, USMC
St Sgt Joseph Duffy, USAF
MSGT Steve Gallegos, USMC
Pvt. 2 Jess Phillips, US Army
Julian Torres, USMC
Corporal Jeffery Lee Wilcox, USMC

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

What's Inside

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Not Always a
Rose Garden
Christian Stewardship

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Calendar Highlights

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

The Week Ahead

Oct 25 Liturgy of the Word for
Children at 8:30am
Mass

Oct 25 RE.A.CH Classes

The Month Ahead

Nov. 1 Liturgy of the Word for
Children at 8:30am
Mass

Nov 1 RE.A.CH Classes at
Church

Nov 15 RE.A.CH Classes at
Church

Nov 8-22 Stewardship Renewal

Nov 8 Choral Concert:
Missa Romantica

Nov 9 Women's Guild Meeting

Nov 14-15 St. Bonaventure
Clothing Drive

Nov 15 Blood Drive

Nov 22 Stewardship
Appreciation Reception

The Year Ahead

Dec 6 Towers of Faith
Reception

Dec 14 Women's Guild Meeting

Next Year—2010

Jan 11 Women's Guild Meeting

April 30 Eleventh Annual
Golf Classic

Aug 22 Second Annual
Pastor's Dinner

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday, October 24, 5:00pm
Bill Votel ☩

Sunday, October 25, 8:30am
Leo Grassilli ☩

Sunday, October 25, 10:30am
Jerry & Judy Buoniconti

Tuesday, October 27, 8:15am
Dominic Vienna, Sr. ☩

Wednesday, October 28, 8:15am
Eileen Gough

Wednesday, October 28, 9:45am
Nancy Scali
Emeritus of Oceanside

Thursday, October 29, 8:15am
Linda Mendez

Friday, October 30, 8:15am
Bernie Weiler ☩

Saturday, October 31, 5:00pm
Elsie Stewart ☩

Sunday, November 1, 8:30am
Isabelle Browne ☩

Sunday, November 1, 10:30am
Carl Bechtold ☩

Congratulations to

Jerry & Judy Buoniconti

who celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on October 25.

May God continue to bless your marriage, and may you be an inspiration to other married couples.

Welcome to Newly Registered Parishioners

Ann McMahan & Family

In Memoriam

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:



Robert "Bob" Belter, who died October 14. His Funeral Mass was celebrated on Thursday, October 22, at St. Thomas More. Please keep Bob's family in your prayers.

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

Flower Donations

We would like to gratefully acknowledge the contribution of:

Adela Aurrecoechea

Jane Grassilli

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

STM \$crip News

Let's take the merchants up on their offer to help build our Sanctuary! Stop by the Scrip table on the Plaza to find out how.

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!

Celebration of the Eucharist During the Flu Season

Several people have approached me about the need to take special precautions regarding human contact during the Liturgy in the flu season.

Everyone is reminded that the "holding of hands" during the Lord's Prayer is not a requirement. It has always been an option for the members of the assembly. The sign of peace can be given in a variety of ways: the handshake, a hug, or a bow to the people around you. During Communion, drinking the Precious Blood from the common Chalice has always been an option for the members of the assembly.

We will continue to do what we do, but I would ask that everyone simply use common sense.

If you have any kind of cold or flu symptoms, you may avoid holding hands during the Our Father. Instead, raise and open your hands in the "prayer position." At the Sign of Peace, you may refrain from the handshake. Instead give a gentle, respectful bow to the people around you. During Communion, you may choose to refrain from sharing in the Cup.

Actually, these options are open to all members of the assembly at all times, not just during the flu season.

I ask that all members of the assembly be respectful in the various choices that individuals will make in regard to these liturgical options.

Thank You!

Rev. Michael Ratajczak

STM Annual Financial Report

The Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 is now available for viewing on the Parish website. Go to www.stmoside.org, then click on Finance Council and select Parish Financial Report July 2008 to June 2009.

The report is only being published online this year to save on printing and mailing costs. All Parishioners with email addresses on record were sent a message with the link to the report. Printed copies will be available at the Parish Office by request for those without internet access.

If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office at 760-758-4100 x100 or parishoffice@stmoside.org.

Disaster Relief for the Philippines, Samoa, Tonga, and Indonesia

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) has quickly responded to the disasters in the Philippines, the Pacific Islands of Samoa and Tonga, and Indonesia. Individuals can send contributions to CRS directly and indicate "Typhoon Ketwana" or "Samoa/Tonga tsunami" or "Indonesia" in the memo area. The mailing address for Catholic Relief Services is 228 W. Lexington St., Baltimore, MD 21201-3413.

World Mission Sunday Collection

Envelopes were stapled to the bulletin the first weekend in October for World Mission Sunday, our opportunity to support the Church's effort to spread the Gospel throughout the world. Envelopes may be returned any time during the month of October. Thank you for your support!

Christmas Angel Time!

The Angel Tree Ministry is about to start its 2009 Christmas Season. The first meeting will be on Wednesday, October 28, at 7:00pm on the lower level of the Parish Center. A second meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 11, at 7:00pm. Please join us in this wonderful ministry to bring Christmas joy to those in need at several local charities. We need volunteers to prepare and man the angel tree adorned with ornaments for children's gifts and infant/toddler stocking stuffers at all the Masses, and then package the smaller items in stockings and gift bags on Saturday December 12. We look forward to seeing you.



For more information please contact John or Marti Harper at 760-724-1181 or 4johnnysangel@cox.net

Women's Guild News

Many thanks go to Mary Coxon for planning such a wonderful October meeting! We had special guests Marcy See, co-director of Project Linus, and Mary Rose Stearns, director of Birth Choice. Marcy told about the role of Project Linus and shared displays. Mary Rose and Charlene Buehlert demonstrated a typical layette box put together for Birth Choice. Our own quilters were also honored with a display of quilts and commendation for their many hours dedicated to St Thomas More Women's Guild. A special luncheon treat was the lemon tarts and petit fours created by parishioner Rebecca Eyer. Thanks also to all who worked that day to make this such a special occasion.

Now mark your calendars for our November Book Faire and author visit on Monday, November 9, at 11:00am. You will all want to hear Jennifer Lanzrath. For reservations, call Valerie Thompson, Mary Coxon, or Elizabeth Remsburg.

Next board meeting is Monday, November 2, at 10:00am at Valerie Thompson's home. Please call if you cannot attend.

Blood Drive

Our fall Blood Drive will be on Sunday, November 15, in the upper parking lot. Start eating your iron-rich foods now. Sign ups on the Plaza after Masses on the weekends of October 31-November 1 and November 7-8. For more information, contact Linda Dicus at 760-726-5081.

Eucharistic Adoration



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

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

*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.

Remembering Our Beloved Dead

November is a special time in our Church for remembering our beloved dead, especially on Monday, November 2, the Feast of All Souls. There will be a special Mass that evening at 7:00pm, in order to pray for our deceased relatives and friends. All those who have died this past year and were buried from our Church will be especially held up in prayer. Let us gather as a Parish community to pray for the dead and to support our parishioners who are grieving the recent deaths of their loved ones.



Little Rock Scripture Studies: Praying the Scriptures

The Word of God is a seed. We have to nurture the ground before the seed can grow and bear fruit within us. Plan to attend our Parish Scripture Study, *Praying the Scriptures*, beginning Wednesday, October 28, at 9:00am or Thursday, October 29, at 7:00pm for seven sessions. This study explores the always-relevant ways God has transformed history and invites participation through praise, thanksgiving, and the many other ways scripture teaches prayer. Registrations begin the weekend of October 17-18. For more information, contact Masako Streling at 760-295-2594 or mstr0619@cox.net.

Knights of Columbus Entertainment Book Fundraiser

The Knights are offering *Entertainment Books* again this year. The books are \$40 each. All proceeds go toward supporting St. Thomas More and various charities. See the Knights on the Plaza after most Masses throughout the remainder of 2009 to purchase your book.



Indian Mission Needs Your Help

On November 14-15, the St. Thomas More Knights of Columbus Council 11439 will be collecting donations for the St. Bonaventure Indian Mission of Thoreau, New Mexico. They desperately need warm clothing (infants, toddlers, teen, and adult sizes), bed linens, household items, small appliances, and toys (new or used, but not abused). Please place donations in large plastic bags. Donations may be tax deductible and receipts will be given, if requested. Start gathering your items **now**. For more information, contact Jim Baker at 760-630-2471 or Bill Carrothers at 760-940-8992. Thank you and God Bless.

Small Church Communities

We currently have openings in our Small Church Community Groups that meet once a week in each others' homes to discuss scripture readings and fellowship. Some groups meet in the mornings; others, in the evenings. For more information, please contact Sondra Parks at 760-598-1269.

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.

Liturgy & Music

Worship God

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



GIVING ONE'S ALL. TODAY!

Scripture Themes for November 2009

As the ending weeks of one liturgical year dovetail into the new year, the ancient scriptural authors are eager to offer good advice concerning the end time. The sacred texts are replete with references that were intended to enlighten believers so as to free them from anxiety and fill them with hope. However, some of the scriptural images strike fear and anxiety into the hearts of many.

John the Seer (Nov. 1) offers a glimpse of the heavenly Jerusalem where salvation will be joyously celebrated by the servants of God gathered around Jesus, the victorious lamb. But even this scene is marked by the sobering truth that those who celebrate are the survivors of a time of great distress. Imaginings concerning that difficult time will be offered by Daniel, Mark, John and Luke (Nov. 15, 22, 29), who agree that the end time will be characterized by testing, purification and judgment that will unveil every iniquity and injustice.

Dread creeps into hearts that do not know if they will be able to withstand the harsh light of truth. Fear for oneself and for loved ones often threatens the peace that should prevail within the souls of believers. At times, the depth of these fears prompts some to try to pretend that the judgment time will never come or to "immunize" themselves with behaviors that distract them and attitudes that ignore the future. Those who opt for such pretense will nevertheless find themselves obliged, at least annually, to face the music and to deal with the reality that life as we know it will indeed one day come to an end.

To compound the fears and dread that arise from this annual confrontation with mortality, the ancient authors repeatedly remind us that not one of us will have the advantage of knowing when that ultimate end will come. Like a thief in the night, suddenly and unexpectedly, the Lord will come and there will be a reckoning that will leave the just shining brightly like the stars forever (Nov. 15) and the wicked reaping the sad consequences of their own free choices and deliberate actions. We are also reminded that last-ditch efforts to prepare to meet the Lord will be of no value. Therefore, preparation is a process that should begin today—not tomorrow, not next week, but today.

Although we may be procrastinators as regards the never-ending future, many among us have acquired a certain savvy in preparing for our futures on this side of eternity. We build nest eggs and invest in individual retirement accounts. We try to plan

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

FRIDAY OF 31ST WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6 ♦ 8:45am - 7:30pm

**We pray...that all who have died may rejoice
in the loving embrace of our God.**

carefully for every possible scenario. We work hard at delaying the aging process, and when old age can no longer be denied, we provide ourselves with long-term care plans that will see us comfortably through to the grave. But all of these efforts are ineffective in preparing for the end that will evolve into eternity. For advice on this regard, we turn again to the sacred texts.

There, Mark will reintroduce us to a nameless widow (Nov. 8) who, by example, will teach us how to live, how to let go and how to face the future without fear. In sharp contrast to those who were fully invested in the passing joys and benefits of this life, and who worked to gain the adulation of others, the woman demonstrated her complete commitment to God by giving all she had.

She did not care what others would think of her. Her only concern was her relationship with God. More practical people may argue that her action was foolish; a sensible person would have held back one of the coins for what little security it may have afforded her. But the woman's "foolishness" witnessed to faith and wisdom that had grasped something of the ways and wisdom of God.

Her experiences in life along with her faith had enabled her to embrace the spirituality set forth by the Matthean Jesus in the beatitudes (Nov. 1). Poor, meek and clean of heart, she had no rights and no voice in the world in which she lived. With nothing and no one else to cling to, she clung confidently to God. Because her material security had died along with her husband, she was thereafter known as widow or *almanah* (Hebrew for "unable to speak") and as *chera* (Greek for "forsaken" or "left empty"). Nevertheless, her voiceless witness continues to speak loudly to all who will listen.

Out of her emptiness, she continues to fill us with the truth that being prepared for the end will require us to offer all we have and all we are to God. Holding back nothing, we offer this gift of ourselves *today*, for tomorrow may never come.

—Patricia Datchuck Sánchez and Rafael Sánchez Alonso
from *Celebration* magazine, November 2009

Music Ministry Next Week

**OCTOBER 31/
NOVEMBER 1**
All Saints

5:00pm Mass

Handbell Choir

8:30am Mass

Adult Choir

10:30am Mass

Cantor

NOVEMBER 2

All Souls

8:15am Mass

Cantor

7:00pm Mass

Adult Choir

Faith Formation

Teach and Live the Gospel

Kathleen Bell

Director of Faith Formation

kathleenb@stmoside.org; 760-758-4100 x110



Today is a **RE.A.CH** day
Religious Education for Adolescents & Children
at Church

RE.A.CH— Attendance Alert!

Special congratulations to our faith communities with everyone present on October 11:

- * JEREMIAH (2 in a row for kindergarten!)
- * KINGS
- * PROVERBS
- * RUTH



Please be sure you've highlighted our Church sessions for the remainder of 2009 on your calendar because they don't follow the usual pattern:

October 25	←	Two in a row at church
November 1		
November 15		
December 6	←	Two in a row at church
December 13		

Little Books

The Little Blue Book for the Advent-Christmas Season is now available. Many parishioners look forward to these six-minute meditations as a way to make a very hectic season HOLY.

They are available early because many enjoy mailing them to friends and relatives.

Your \$2 donation is appreciated to help cover the cost of the book. They are available today at the Faith Formation Table, or on the lower level of the Parish Center during the week.



PBJ Update

(Food for children at the Emergency Crisis Center)

2009 GOAL: 365 jars
Collected to date: 617 jars !



Our count begins again with the new church year: Nov. 29.
Thank you for almost **DOUBLING** this year's goal!

Parenting: the Art of Negotiation

by Jacquie Jambor

There is no doubt about it, children can be stubborn and willful. In fact, some children seem to be born that way. Yet, some children come into the world with a willingness to cooperate and are generally agreeable. Even more mystifying—both extremes can be found in the same family.

As parents raise such diverse children, it can be difficult to establish rules and guidelines that are fair to all children in the family. How can we best supervise both the child who is trustworthy and the child who is tempted by every dangerous opportunity?

One suggestion is to begin negotiating with your children at an early age. Here are some reasons for putting the effort into negotiation right away.

- Negotiation establishes communication between parent and child during the time when children are most willing.
- At the early ages, the child develops negotiating skills gradually.
- Rather than a tug-of-war, the child begins to appreciate that there are no "winners" and "losers" in negotiation.
- When dealing with early adolescents and teen-agers, negotiation helps to keep issues from deteriorating into a test of wills.
- Negotiation skills can help children to solve difficult situations with their peers.

Here are some ideas for how to begin

- Begin by giving young children choices such as: What story book to read. What to wear. What to have for lunch.
- Start by providing choices for your expectations of the child such as: Would you rather empty the dishwasher or set the table? Would you rather take care of your little sister or help clean up?
- Once a child is accustomed to making good choices, you can begin to negotiate issues such as allowance. What is fair? Why? Why not? Would you be willing to take more responsibility with the family for a raise in your allowance? Would you be willing to save part of your allowance if it was raised? How would you spend it? What would you save for? Or what about negotiating the child's curfew or household chores? Or what time to attend Mass?
- Reinforce your child's responsibility as you negotiate. When homework and chores are completed in a timely, agreed upon manner, reward the child with more favorable terms of negotiation.

One of the added benefits of negotiating with children is that they become increasingly more adept at thinking through their requests. Even before they come to negotiate permission, they recognize what your concerns might be. Plus, even when negotiation fails to provide the child's desired outcome, at least the child can feel as if he/she had an opportunity to make his/her case. And isn't that what we all want—to be heard and respected?

Stewardship & Development

Serve God's People

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

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

Not Always a Rose Garden

Today's psalm is uplifting ~ "The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy." It follows, then, that as good Christian stewards our living and giving are examples that we understand that God is the Source of *all* that we are and have.

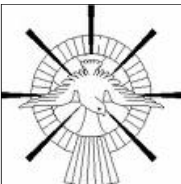
Think about that for a moment. All that we are that all that we have is on loan to us. We are a fairly gifted group, aren't we!

While we acknowledge that God is a generous God, there is a catch. Since all is on loan to us (even our fingers and toes) we need to 'manage' all of these things during the brief time we have on this earth. After that, we will be held accountable.

So, as Christian Stewards we are managers of all that God has entrusted to us. It is so easy to slip into the mindset that we 'own' everything we have...and even to be self-righteous about it.

A powerful thing that prayer has done for me is to remind me of just how blessed I am. My grandparents were all born in Europe and immigrated here. My little grandmother spoke very broken English, and raised seven children on limited resources. My mother's side of our family was Polish, and they lived in a Polish neighborhood. These were working class people, and my grandfather, and all the children, worked.

You wonder what that has to do with stewardship? It is simply that during my adult life I have encountered adults who have just come to this country, and still don't speak very good English. Often, when I was still in the banking industry, people would come to my desk for help, but they *still* only spoke broken Italian, Korean, Spanish and Vietnamese. A challenging situation.



God reminded me of my dear grandma and the times I visited her on the East coast. She tried so hard, and still some folks treated her with disdain. It made a lasting impression on me and I vowed never to forget my roots and the struggles made by family members long before I was born so that our lives would be better.

God gifted me with understanding and compassion and it has made each day a blessing. Life is not always perfect, but it is a gift. As Jesus suffered, so too will we, at times, in His service.

My grandparents were gifted to come to this country as very young adults. They valued that gift and everything after it. By some people's standards, they weren't considered wealthy, but they had a roof over their heads and there was always food on the table. Birthday and Christmas presents were absent, except for a fresh orange at Christmas for my aunts and uncles, but they were *happy*. They had great faith in God.

Gratefully and prayerfully manage all you have. Make no mistake about it ~ none of us gets out of here alive. God will ask us to account for how we have managed *our* gifts. Not a day passes that I am not reminded, in some way, to faithfully care for *all* that God has entrusted to me during my brief stay here on earth.

We are blessed with the ongoing opportunity to act on our Baptismal commitment. Jesus never quit, or said no to His Father. Nor will I. God loves us all. Count your blessings and keep (or start) making a difference!

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.



Collection for Week of: October 17/18, 2009

Number of Registered Households:	1,009
Offertory*	\$ 10,090.21
Offertory (Loose Collection)	875.00
Children's envelopes	0.50
Total	\$ 10,965.71

* 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/Savings Account Deduction

*To participate in these time-saving alternatives,
please contact the Parish Office at:*

760-758-4100 x100 or parishoffice@stmoside.org.

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.

Life is not always easy, but life is still a gift!

News from the Larger Church

Lunch Served for Seniors in Oceanside—The Salvation Army Senior Dining & Social Center, 3935 Lake Blvd, Oceanside (near Emeritus of Oceanside and Pacific Place) serves lunch for \$3 at noon, Monday-Friday, for any seniors 60 and over. For more information and reservations, call 760-631-8279

Volunteer Opportunities Available 1 or 2 Days a Week—If you are 50 or better, the Jesuit-sponsored *Ignatian Volunteer Corps* may be for you! Our Volunteers serve the needs of local people who are poor, work for a more just society, and grow deeper in Christian faith through reflection and prayer. Contact Margie Carroll, Regional Director at 619-881-9509 or mcarroll@ivcusa.org or Visit our website at www.ivcusa.org.

Theology on Tap Series for Young Adults in San Diego—Wednesday, October 28, 7:00-9:00pm at Lotsa Pasta. For more information contact 858-490-8260 or www.yamsd.org.

Vocal Concert in San Diego—Sunday October 25, 3:00pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Parish. The first concert of the seventh season of their Music Series features *Pacific Camerate*, an a cappella group performing sacred Renaissance music. All are welcome, and refreshments will be served after the concert.

Healing Mass in Solana Beach—The St. James Healing Ministry invites you to attend our quarterly Healing Mass Tuesday, October 27, 7:00pm, at St. James Church, 625 S. Nardo Ave., Solana Beach. Praise and worship, followed by testimonies, will begin at 6:30 p.m. Bring a friend!

Chili Cook-Off and Hoedown in Vista—The St. Francis Catholic School's first annual Chili Cook-Off and Hoedown will be held on Friday, November 6, from 5:00-8:00 p.m. on the school blacktop. Come and enjoy the fun along with favorite chili recipes, hot dogs, and delicious desserts! If you are interested in entering your own recipe in the Chili Cook-Off, a limited number of "at large" spots are available. St. Francis School is located at 525 W. Vista Way, Vista. For more information, call 760-630-7960.

Women's Morning of Reflection in Carlsbad—Saturday, November 7, 8:30am-12:00noon, St. Patrick Church, 3821 Adams St., Carlsbad. The theme will be *Renewing Our Faith in the Power of Prayer*, presented by Lynn Neu. Cost is \$5 and includes continental breakfast. 3 hours renewal credit available. For more information and to RSVP, call 760-729-2866.

Central San Diego Magnificat Women's Group Meeting—Saturday, November 7, 9:30am at the Mission Valley Sheraton. Marie Schaefer will share her compelling and extraordinary conversion experience. To RSVP or for more information, contact 858-578-1256.

Mass and Adoration for Vocations—Thursday, November 12, 7:00-8:30pm, St. Patrick Church, 3821 Adams St., Carlsbad. For more information, contact Sr. Aurora Lopez-Ornelas at alopez-ornelas@diocese-sdiego.org.

University of San Diego Faces of Spirituality Series in San Diego—Thursday, November 12, 7:30-9:00pm, Salomon Hall, Bishop Maher Hall, 5998 Alcala Park, San Diego. This presentation features *Francis of Assisi--A New Way of Being Christian*. This year marks the 800th anniversary of the formal founding of the Franciscan order. William Short, OFM, will

reflect on the spirit of Francis of Assisi and Franciscan values that are as relevant today as they were then: reverence for all of creation, commitment to the poor and simplicity of life. For more information, contact 619-260-4784 or ccs@sandiego.edu.

Spirit and Truth Event for Young Adults in Chula Vista—Friday, November 13, 7:00-9:00pm, Most Precious Blood Church, 1245 Fourth Ave., Chula Vista. There will be live praise and worship music, a talk on *Advent--What It Is and Why Is It So Special?*, adoration, and a social to follow. For more information, visit www.yamsd.org.

Altar Society's Annual Boutique in Carlsbad—Saturday, November 15, 10:00am-6:30pm and Sunday, November 15, 7:30am-1:00pm, at St. Patrick Church, 3821 Adams St., Carlsbad.

Annual Christmas Boutique in Escondido—November 21, 4:00-7:00pm and November 22, 8:00am-1:00pm, Church of St. Timothy, 2960 Canyon Rd., Escondido. For more information, contact Linda at 760-743-1500 or lsteiner453@yahoo.com.

Natural Family Planning Teacher Training in San Diego—Classes to train Natural Family Planning teachers will be offered in October for both the Sympto-thermal method and the Ovulation method (October 30-31). For more information, contact Peggy at 858-490-8295.

Ongoing Diocesan Workshops—Various topics related to religious education. For details, contact www.diocese-sdiego.org/evangelization.htm or 858-490-8230.

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.

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.

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

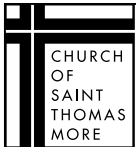
(the Passion Play is only performed every 10 years)

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: padrepedro@stjudesd.com or 619-264-2195



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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 10/25/09

Council Chairs: Pastoral-Doug D'Agrosa 760-941-6800 • Finance-Paul Ibbetson 760-734-1051 • Development-Ron Briseno 760-726-4496

Pastoral Council Committees

Faith Formation & Evangelization **Rory Griffin 760-414-3939**
 Religious Education (Adults) Wayne Zych 760-598-9244
 Small Church Communities Sondra Parks 760-598-1269
 Little Rock Bible Studies Masako Streling 760-295-2594
 Religious Education (Children) Kathleen Bell 760-758-4100 x110
 Liturgy of the Word for Children Cathy Meyer 760-598-7853
 Sacramental Preparation Kathleen Bell 760-758-4100 x110
 Mid. Sch. Youth Ministry Ron & Louise Briseno 760-758-4100 x153
 High School Youth Ministry Jeff & Gale Gibbons 760-726-7236
 Young Adult Ministry Joanna Mueller 760-726-5644
 Evangelization Available
 Vocations Deacon Tom & Patt Goeltz 760-758-4100 x130
 RCIA/Adults Mario Diaz 760-758-7870
 RCIA/Children Jeanette Marriott 760-434-1818

Liturgy **Kathy Arciero 760-231-1022**
 Altar Linen Care Marge Gillen 760-639-1929
 Bereavement Facilitator Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131
 Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs Regina Aulisio 760-295-5530
 Environment & Art Kathy Quinn 760-722-7525
 Eucharistic Adoration Available
 Interior Design Team Pat & Phil Goscienski 760-732-1414
 Liturgical Ministries Douglas Lynn 760-758-4100 x140
 Liturgical Music Douglas Lynn 760-758-4100 x140

Marriage & Family Life **Available**
 ACTTS Young Adults Jen Frost actts@stmoside.org
 Theresa Goeltz 760-453-2870
 Family Services Deacon Tom Goeltz 760-758-4100 x130
 Marriage Preparation Rev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100
 Deacon Tom Goeltz 760-758-4100 x130
 Parents & Tots Paul Mendiola 760-945-9042
 Widows & Widowers of North County Carol Kope 760-758-4100
 Jackie Cohen 760-726-4343

Parish Organizations & Events **Available**
 Golf Classic John Murphy 760-497-6117
 Historian Anne Marshall 760-727-2668
 Knights of Columbus James Baker 760-630-2471
 Library Chris James 760-598-5881
 Spirited Seniors Judy & Jerry Buoniconti 760-758-5113
 Vera Bayliss 760-739-9061
 Women's Guild Valerie Thompson 760-630-1703

Social Ministries Dick & Charlene Belprez 760-295-1431

Blood Drive Linda Dicus 760-726-5081
 Bereavement Follow-up Support Linda Dicus 760-726-5081
 Brother Benno's Deacon Tom & Patt Goeltz 760-727-8442
 Christmas Angel Ministry John & Marti Harper 760-724-1181
 Culture of Life Jane Kelleher 760-822-7041
 Faith Works Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131
 CPR/AED Classes Phil Goscienski 760-732-1414
 Disability Facilitation Ann Eriksson 760-599-7151
 Fraternity & Michaelle House Position available
 Huggy Buddies Program Gale Gibbons 760-726-7236
 Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice

..... Joyce Meehan 760-724-4974
 Interfaith Shelter Network Frank Coxon 760-599-8760
 Jail Ministry Rita McCarthy 760-758-4100 x100
 More's Workers Dick Belprez 760-295-1431
 Prayer Request Line Pat Wong 760-806-1310
 Norma Flanagan 760-630-0180
 Project Linus Mary Coxon 760-599-8760
 Sick & Homebound (Eucharist) Jean McCloskey 760-643-2363
 Sister Parish Program Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131
 Social Justice Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131
 St. Bonaventure Mission Knights of Columbus 760-630-2471

Office Support Henny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100

Chair Set-Up Lorraine Doering 760-758-4100 x102
 General Support Henny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100
 Kitchen Overseer Vlad Bolsakov 760-473-8461
 STM Host Program Henny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100

Development Council Committees

Annual Catholic Appeal Flora Fallone 760-758-4100 x100
 Capital Campaign Bill Ipsen 760-723-0402
 New Construction Brian Leahey 760-598-5697
 Parish Membership Louise Briseno 760-726-4496
 Planned Giving Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120
 Publicity/Public Relations Anne Marshall 760-727-2668
 Sacrificial Giving/Tithing Paul Ibbetson 760-734-1051
 Scrip Sales Theresa Goeltz 760-453-2876
 Stewardship Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120
 Vehicle Donations Henny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor 760-758-4100 x100 michaelr@stmoside.org
 Deacon Tom Goeltz 760-758-4100 x130 or 760-727-8442 thomasg@stmoside.org
 Sr. Maureen Brown, Pastoral Associate 760-758-4100 x131 maureenb@stmoside.org
 Kathleen Bell, Director of Faith Formation 760-758-4100 x110 kathleenb@stmoside.org
 Gale & Jeff Gibbons, High School Youth Ministers 760-758-4100 x150 jeffg@stmoside.org, galeg@stmoside.org
 Ron & Louise Briseno, Middle School Youth Ministers 760-758-4100 x153 ronb@stmoside.org, louiseb@stmoside.org
 Stacey Griffin, Faith Formation Office Assistant 760-758-4100 x110 staceyg@stmoside.org
 Douglas Lynn, Director of Music/Coordinator of Liturgical Ministries 760-758-4100 x140 douglasl@stmoside.org
 Kathy Santy, Assistant Music Director 760-758-4100 x100 kathys@stmoside.org
 Chris Smith, Director of Stewardship & Development 760-758-4100 x120 chriss@stmoside.org
 Joe Garcia, Director of Maintenance 760-758-4100 x151 joeg@stmoside.org
 Henny Jocelyn, Receptionist/Secretary 760-758-4100 x100 hennyj@stmoside.org
 Natalie Provinse, Bookkeeper 760-758-4100 x104 nataliep@stmoside.org
 Lorraine Doering, Parish Office Technician 760-758-4100 x102 lorrained@stmoside.org

Patronize Our Advertisers

Thank you to our advertisers! Please patronize these merchants and let them know you saw their ad in the St. Thomas More bulletin. Any business owners are welcome to advertise their services. Please call Chris McAdams of C & M Publications at 951-683-0608. Thank you.

Women's Guild Bake Sale Results

A great big "Thank You" to everyone who participated in the bake sale last weekend, from callers, bakers, buyers, and donators. Because of your generosity, we raised over \$1,105!



Remembering Our Departed Loved Ones

All Souls' envelopes are attached to this week's bulletin. If you wish to remember family members or friends who have died, please complete and return the envelope with your offering to the Parish Office or the weekend offertory collection. The envelopes will be placed on the altar for Feast of All Souls on November 2 and remain until the Feast of Christ the King.



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

Monday, October 26

Service Evening for
Middle School Youth
Halloween Event
6:30-8:30pm

Monday, November 2

Join us for
All Souls Mass – 7:00pm
(no youth group)

Call Gale & Jeff at 760-726-7236
for more information!

ACTTS

Adult Catholics
in their
Twenties and Thirties
who Socialize

Friday, October 30, 8:00pm
Halloween Party
at O'Sullivan's Irish Pub
in Carlsbad
(costumes encouraged)

For more information, contact:
actts@stmoside.org or 760-453-2870.

PUSH! *St. Thomas More
Middle School
Youth Group*



Halloween Bash

Monday, October 26

6:30-8:30pm



Costume Contest

- Scariest - Funniest - Cutest -



DJ, Games, & Prizes



Pizza & Candy

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!

All Middle School kids Welcome!

\$5 at the door

Peace, Ron & Louise - Youth Ministers
760-758-4100 x153 or www.stmoside.org/ym

St. Thomas More Catholic Church presents



James Q. Mulholland's

Missa Romantica

and other choral gems

St. Thomas More Catholic Church

with our friends from Napa, California

First United Methodist Church

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

In concert to benefit Interfaith Community Services

Founded in 1979 by a handful of diverse faith communities, North County's Interfaith Community Services addresses the needs of low-income, homeless, and underserved populations, and provides a continuum of programs and services that provides the tools and resources people in crisis need to stabilize and rebuild their lives.

Sunday, November 8, 2009 • 2:00 p.m.

1450 South Melrose Drive (at Cannon Road), Oceanside

Free-will offering—or bring a canned good or three!

for more information, please call (760) 758-4100, ext. 140, or email douglasl@stmoside.org

Free Job Search & Networking Clinic

*Given by the North County Job Transition Network and
Supported by Mission San Luis Rey to Serve the Community*

Kick Start Your Job Search – Proactively find a new or better job

- Learn proven techniques that really work:
 - networking, interviewing and building a resume
- Network with fellow attendees
- Practice the techniques in exercises during the session

Tuesday, November 3, 2009 6 to 9 PM

**Mission San Luis Rey Church- Serra Center- 4070 Mission Ave.
Oceanside**

Quotes from Previous Attendees:

“The presentation was very helpful, very clear and well delivered. Excellent summary of general guidelines on job hunting, resume writing, and networking....” G.D.

“The session was excellent. I did not feel overwhelmed by information, which typically happens with seminars. I left with more confidence and knowledge about job searching through networking. I enjoyed the exercises which forced us to apply the information and practice with it.” L.M.

Questions? Call the Saint Thomas More Parish Contact

Regina Aulisio 760-295-5530