

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

November 22, 2009 • Our Lord Jesus Christ the King

Pastor's Column

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

**Cardinal George, President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops,
Lauds House Action to Ban Federal Funds for Abortion;
Promises Vigilance as Senate Pursues Health Care Reform; Wary About Effect on Poor, Elderly**

This is a statement issued on November 9 by Cardinal Francis George on behalf of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops:

Over the weekend, the US House of Representatives advanced major legislation to provide adequate and affordable health care to all. The Catholic Bishops of the United States have long advocated that adequate health care be made available to everyone. In an essential step, the House voted overwhelmingly to reaffirm the longstanding and widely supported precedent that no federal funds will be used to pay for elective abortions. In doing so, the Representatives honored President Obama's commitment to

the Congress and the nation that health care reform would not become a vehicle for expanding abortion funding or mandates. The Conference will remain vigilant and involved throughout this entire process to assure that these essential provisions are maintained and included in the final legislation. We will work to persuade the Senate to follow the example of the House and include these critical safeguards in their version of health care reform legislation. We also thank the members of the House who took this courageous and principled step to oppose measures that would force Americans to pay for the destruction of unborn

(Continued on page 2)

Attention all STM Stewards!

If you RSVP'd for the reception this afternoon, we'll see you there!
Please drop by anytime between 3:00 and 5:00pm for hors d'oeuvres, desserts,
beverages, and most of all, thanksgiving, fun, and fellowship!
Questions? Contact Chris Smith at 760-758-4100 x120 or chriss@stmoside.org.



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)*

children, and the Democratic leadership for allowing the Representatives to vote on this amendment that protects the common good.

In the national discussion on how to provide the best kind of health care, we bishops do not claim or present ourselves as experts on health care policy. We are not prepared to assess every provision of legislation as complex as this proposal. However, health care legislation, with all its political, technical, and economic aspects, is about human beings and hence has serious moral dimensions. Our focus is the concrete realities of families with children and their access to doctors, the poor and the elderly, those with limited means, and those with few or even no means, such as the mother carrying a child in her womb. Our Catholic commitment to health care picks up the pieces of our failing system in our emergency rooms, clinics, parishes, and communities. This is why we believe our nation's health care system needs reform which protects human life and dignity and serves the poor and vulnerable as a moral imperative and an urgent national priority.

We remain deeply concerned about the debate that now moves to the Senate, especially as it will affect the poor and vulnerable, and those at the beginning and end of life. We will continue to insist that health care reform legislation must protect conscience rights. We support measures to make health care more affordable for low-income people and the uninsured. We remain deeply concerned that immigrants be treated fairly and not lose the health care coverage that they now have. We will continue to raise our voices in public and in prayer; we ask our people to join us in making the moral case for genuine health care reform that protects the life, dignity, consciences and health of all.

Fr. 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, December 4.

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

St. Thomas More Vehicle Donation Program

Do you have a vehicle you want to donate?

**Call the Parish Office at
758-4100 x100**



Readings for the Week Ahead

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

Sunday, November 22 (161)

Our Lord Jesus Christ the King

Daniel 7:13-14

Psalm 93:1-2,5

Revelation 1:5-8

John 18:33b-37

Monday, November 23 (503)

Clement I, pope, martyr;

Columban, abbot; Blessed Miguel

Agustín Pro, priest, martyr

Daniel 1:1-6,8-20

Daniel 3:52-56 (Psalm)

Luke 21:1-4

Tuesday, November 24 (504)

Andrew Dung-Lac, priest, martyr, and

his companions, martyrs

Daniel 2:31-45

Daniel 3:57-61 (Psalm)

Luke 21:5-11

Wednesday, November 25 (505)

Catherine of Alexandria, virgin,

martyr

Daniel 5:1-6,13-14,16-17,23-28

Daniel 3:62-67 (Psalm)

Luke 21:12-19

Thursday, November 26 (943-947)

Thanksgiving Day

Sirach 50:22-24

Psalm 138:1-5

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Luke 17:11-19

Friday, November 27 (507)

Daniel 7:2-14

Daniel 3:75-81 (Psalm)

Luke 21:29-33

Saturday, November 28 (508)

Daniel 7:15-27

Daniel 3:82-87 (Psalm)

Luke 21:34-36

Sunday Year C; Weekday Year II

Sunday, November 29 (3)

First Sunday of Advent

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Psalm 25:4-5,8-10,14

1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

Luke 21:25-28,34-36

Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 21, 5:00pm

Deceased Members of the
Lavelle & Tutino Families ☩

Sunday, November 22, 8:30am

Dolores Murchison ☩

Sunday, November 22, 10:30am

Deceased Members of the
Schweitzer & Berry Families ☩

Tuesday, November 24, 8:15am

Eugene Merris ☩

Wednesday, November 25, 8:15am

Vance ☩ & Freda Schweitzer

Thursday, November 26, 9:00am

Phyllis Sethers ☩

Friday, November 27, 8:15am

Communion Service

Saturday, November 28, 5:00pm

J. C. Gonzalez ☩

Sunday, November 29, 8:30am

Tom & Pat Hannon

Sunday, November 29, 10:30am

Mr. Earl "Joe" Stein ☩

Prayer List

Call 760-758-4100 x102 to add a name for four weeks.

Mary Alexander
Mary Baker
Patricia Barbour
Cindra Bell
The Belter Family
John Bennici
Regina Bentz
George "Whitey" Betus
Robert Bonanno
Beatrice Brooks & Family
Monica Broussard
Janet Brown
Roseanne Burg
Herman Calandro
Shelby Campbell
Claudia Caplinger
Tony Cavaleri
Emily Champ
Paul Cipowski
Marilyn Clarke
James Coleman
Thomas Cornwell & Family
The Crowell Family
Karen Flaharty Daley
Margie Daniels & Family
Cecilia DeSimone
Linda Dossman
Kathryn Ernst
The Fiore Family
Peggy & Jack Fischer
Ryan Flum
Kathryn Franklin
Joe Freire
Carmen Garcia
Peter Gavin
The Gemar Family
Charles Gerarge, Jr.
Bob Godley
Rick Gonzalez
Anita Hage
Susan Hallahan
The Harker Family
Rita Harnacker
Barry Henwood
Cynthia Horner
The Howard Family
Sue Johnston
The Kaup & Fisk Families
Darleen Kelch
Paul Kennedy
Debbie Kinney
George Kleekamp
Sr. Anne Kremenik
Helen Kuhn
Cirese LaBerge
Lillian Lachance
The Lamelin Family
Bernie Lanzrath
The Layden Family
Brandon LeBlanc
Cassandra Loretto
Lauren Loretto
James MacArthur
Lois Maganini
Gloria Maupin
The Mauro & Northrup Families
Helen McCullough
Tom McGeary
Bob McWilliams
Carol Michael
The Miller Family

The Miller Family
Howard Montgomery
Nancy Moore
Margie Myers
R. Northrup
Helen O'Connell
Lupe Casas Pelletier
Helen Pingtella
Anne Post
John Puppington
Otila Quiroz
Jane Radilinski
Janet Raiman
Dort Riley
Sr. Loyola Romey
Dorothy Rouse
Rose Rowland
The Russo Family
Nancy Scali
Freda Schweitzer
Richard Sikora
Nick Soltau
Ed Sox
Gilda Spiegl
Dorothy and Ray Staehr
Joan Stringer
Maria Surmenidis
Donna & Hope Toth
Louise 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
Lance Corporal Brandon Doyle,
USMC
St Sgt Joseph Duffy, USAF
MSGT Steve Gallegos, USMC
Pvt. 2 Jess Phillips, US Army
PVT2 Tyler Timmerman,
U.S. Army
Julian Torres, USMC
LT Billy Turley
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.*

Calendar Highlights

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

The Week Ahead

Nov 22 Liturgy of the Word for
Children at 8:30am and
10:30am Masses
Nov 22 Stewardship Appreciation
Reception
Nov 25 Pie Collection for
Brother Benno's
Nov 26 Thanksgiving
Mass at 9:00am
Dinner at 1:00pm
Nov 29 Liturgy of the Word for
children at 8:30am and
10:30am Masses

The Month Ahead

Dec 4 Exposition of the Eucharist
Dec 6 RE.A.CH Classes at Church
Dec 6 Towers of Faith Reception
Dec 12 Spirited Seniors
Holiday Traditions Trip
Dec 13 RE.A.CH Classes at Church
Dec 14 Women's Guild Meeting

Next Year—2010

Jan 1 Family Festival of
Christmas
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.*

Pray for Women Religious

Please join us in praying for the
women religious who serve in the
Diocese of San Diego. They have
been assigned to days of the year in
alphabetical order.

Monday, November 23

Sr. Annette Bower, CSJ

Tuesday, November 24

Sr. Breege Boyle, SSL

Wednesday, November 25

Sr. rose Marie Brausam, OSF

Thursday, November 26

Sr. Josephine Breen, RSM

Friday, November 27

Sr. Gemma Gabriela Briseno, SJS

Saturday, November 28

Sr. Bargaret Brody, CSN

Sunday, November 29

Sr. Maureen Evelyn Brown, CSJ

Welcome to Newly Registered Parishioners

Sheree Brennan & Justin Marx & Family
Michele Benigno

Flower Donations

We would like to gratefully acknowledge the contribution of:

Don & Maureen Tutino

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

In Memoriam



Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Colleen Kaup, who died on November 12. She is the sister-in-law of Parishioner Betty Fisk. Her funeral services were private. Please keep the family in your prayers.

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

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.

Christmas Cards Needed for Prison Ministry

The Diocesan Prison Ministry provides Christmas cards for inmates to send to family members. New, unsigned, boxed Christmas cards can be sent to *Christmas Cards for Inmates, Diocese of San Diego—Office for Social Ministry, PO Box 85728, San Diego, CA 92186-5728* or delivered to the *Pastoral Center, 3888 Paducah Dr., San Diego*.

Spirited Seniors Sponsor Holiday Event Trip

Join us on a bus trip to see the performance *Traditions* at the East County Performing Arts Center in El Cajon on Saturday, December 12, leaving the STM parking lot at noon and returning around 6:00pm. The performance includes holiday customs around the world, music, and a live nativity scene. The cost is \$48 for members, \$50 for non-members, and includes transportation, admission to the show, and a snack. Please RSVP by Tuesday, November 24 to Vera Bayliss at 760-739-9061.



We Are Living Stones . . . Building a Home in which a Culture of Faith Thrives!*

**1 Peter 2:4-5*

November greetings friends!

This month, as we celebrate Christian Stewardship Awareness and Renewal, we focus on the fact that we are the living stones of the Church.

Last November we made a commitment to pray for one another as we continue on our journey in ministerial work and also with the build-out of our permanent Church.

Nearly 1,000 small stones, inscribed with the names of all Parish households, were distributed to Parishioners. We were asked to place these in a prominent place in our home and pray for that family daily. When we break ground for our new Church we will bring these stones back and they will be placed in the foundation as a sign of our strong bond as a faith community and the many prayers that keep us centered in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

There are stones available for adoption and daily prayer available at the Parish Information table. Please stop by and adopt a family stone during this most important part of our journey. Thank you!!!

—Chris Smith

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

God in the Digital Age or
R U There JC?

Part III

Monday, November 30

7:00-9:00pm

Call Gale at 760-726-7236 for more information

Thanksgiving Pies

As you know, Brother Benno's feeds hundreds at a special Thanksgiving feast for the poor and homeless every year. St. Thomas More is their main source for desserts. Please bring freshly baked pumpkin or apple pies to the Parish Office by noon on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. Deacon Tom will see that they are delivered to Brother Benno's in time for the feast. Your generosity will bring a smile and a touch of home to many in need at this holiday time.



Divine Pairings a Great Success!

The STM Golf Classic Silent Auction item *Divine Pairings*, donated by Tony and Kathy Arciero, was a great success. Hosted by Bill and Debbie Ipsen, Parish friends enjoyed a delightful evening of wine tasting complemented with decadent chocolate. A sincere thanks to Tony and Kathy for their dedicated work to make this a most enjoyable event! —Bill and Debbie Ipsen

Fill a Grocery Bag for a Hungry Family!

Every weekend, we will be collecting non-perishable food items to benefit the North County Community Services Food Bank. Look for the blue barrels on the Plaza at weekend Masses to deposit your contributions. The most needed items include canned meats and protein, pasta and pasta sauce, boxed macaroni and cheese, and canned fruit. Thank you for your support! For more information, contact Ron Briseno at 760-758-4100 x153 or ronb@stmoside.org.

Stewardship & Development

Serve God's People

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

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

Living Our Faith

Each week at the end of Mass, we are sent by Fr. Mike to, "Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!" St. Thomas More faith community heeds those words. We put our faith in action. Many thanks to our hundreds of Christian stewards who truly make a difference in our faith community and our world!



Social Ministries, Faith Formation, Liturgy, and Development led the Ministry Awareness weekend on November 14-15.



Many thanks to the Wilson family for their powerful lay witness at all of our Masses.



On this weekend of Christ the King, we too, continue to be faithful witnesses to God's kingdom. We continue the mission and ministry of Jesus in our time and place.



Whether we are donating clothing, blankets, blood, items from the Christmas Angel tree, or reading a book on our faith, we are living that faith!



Yes Lord. I come to do Your Will.

HELPFUL YEAR-END PLANNING TIPS GOT DEDUCTIONS?

As 2009 draws to a close, and you review your financial situation for your IRS returns, there may be an opportunity for greater charitable giving before the end of this year.

YEAR-END CHECKLIST

- ♦ Keep all gift receipts and acknowledgment letters, especially for gifts of \$250 or more.
- ♦ If you sold securities this year and will owe capital gains tax, remember that gifts of cash or other securities may partially or fully offset any tax on your gains.
- ♦ **Annual Catholic Appeal payments?** Any parishioners with a balance due on their pledges made to this year's ACA are requested to conclude their payments before December 31, 2009. Thank you to all who have already fulfilled their pledges! (*Tithing families, remember that your tithe covers your ACA contribution.*)
- ♦ **BE SURE TO COMPLETE** all gifts by December 31 to qualify for tax savings on this year's tax return. **Advance planning with the Parish Office is essential, since the office will be closed from December 24 at noon-January 1, 2010.** Gifts received in the offertory at Masses the weekend of December 26-27 will be credited for year ending 2009.

For further information, please contact:
Chris Smith, 760-758-4100 x120 or chriss@stmoside.org

**All gifts to St. Thomas More are deeply appreciated.
Thank you!**

Collection for Week of: November 14/15, 2009

Number of Registered Households:		1,007
Offertory*	\$	5,900.39
Offertory (Loose Collection)		987.00
Children's envelopes		1.50
Total	\$	6,888.89

* 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.)

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.

Liturgy & Music

Worship God

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



WELCOMING THE WORD MADE FLESH

Scripture Themes for December 2009

Last month, the ancient authors of the sacred texts cooperated in offering their ever-pertinent insights regarding the end time. Preparedness will be the posture we need to welcome that final moment. The authors suggested that such preparedness is best cultivated through the wholehearted gift of oneself to God and to others. Holding nothing back, the believer surrenders all, and in that risky place where fear threatens to strangle faith, God becomes the sure and secure foothold from which the end of time and the forever future may be faced with trusting hope.

In December, the sacred texts and their authors continue to beat the same drum in an attempt to rouse in their hearers a readiness for welcoming the Messiah-Savior, Jesus. Against the historic backdrop of the exile and the devastating loss of all they had loved and valued, the prophets Baruch, Zephaniah, and Micah (Dec. 6, 13, 20) pooled their energies to create for their contemporaries a wondrous vision of the joy and renewal that would accompany their Savior's advent. With healing in his hands, the Savior would strengthen the weak and reconcile sinners; with compassion he would set the suffering upon their feet and encourage them to begin anew. With no enemies to fear and with the failure of their own sins and infidelity forgotten by a merciful and loving God, our ancestors in the faith were encouraged to rejoice in the benevolent dominion of their God. That dominion would be marked by peace that would be arbitrated from above and by justice that would reflect the divine goodness and magnanimity. Along with the divine gifts of peace and justice, believers were challenged to tend and to grow those gifts among their contemporaries as a means of preparing to welcome the Messiah.

Paul and the author of Hebrews (Dec. 6, 13, 20) pick up the message of their prophetic predecessors and affirm the shared belief of Christians that all of the messianic hopes and expectations of the Israelites have been realized in Jesus. With his coming into human flesh has come also the fulfillment of every good promise of peace and justice, of healing and reconciliation for all of this world's peoples. Nevertheless, as is obviously reflected in the continuing struggles and sorrows of humankind, the reign that Jesus came to establish is an anticipatory one. Here in seminal form, but not yet fully or

firmly realized, the reign of God is a work in progress. That progress is directly proportionate to every believer's faith in God and to his or her responsiveness to the power of God's grace to realize, here and now, that for which we wait. Every year at Advent, our dedication to this process is renewed. Our anticipation of the reign of God, with and within us, is reignited, and we are reminded that it is both our privilege and responsibility to move this process forward.

To maintain a forward direction will require that we not only wait but that we also work steadily, tirelessly and without losing hope. Anticipation of the returning Jesus requires more than hoping and praying; we also need to put forward a purposeful effort to tend and grow the seeds that Jesus planted among us almost two millennia ago. During his first appearance, Jesus described his return in terms of a harvest. We are to be mindful that if the seeds of justice and peace, of mutual caring and sharing, of giving and forgiving have not been carefully tended, protected, and enabled to grow, there will be nothing for Jesus to gather in at the time of the great harvest of humankind.

To aid us in producing a worthy harvest, each of the December Gospels will offer a wise word from the Lucan evangelist. Be straight with one another and truthful, implores the third evangelist. Through your integrity, you shall prepare the way for the Lord (Dec. 6). Share what you have with others; allow your faith to govern all your dealings; don't lie or cheat or long for more than you need; be willing to welcome the unexpected and surprising ways of God (Dec. 13).

Realize, as well, that every good harvest begins with good seed. God's Word is the seed that has been sown in all who will offer it a welcome, week after week, year after year at every celebration of Word and Bread. Welcoming the Word of God means following the lead of Mary (Dec. 27), who, without full understanding of what the Word might mean for her or where it might lead, kept the Word in her heart. Pondering it, she gave God's Word a home and a place in which to speak of peace, of truth, of justice and love. That same Word longs to be welcomed and find its home in us.

—Patricia Datchuck Sánchez and Rafael Sánchez Alonso;
Celebration December 2009

Music Ministry Next Week

NOVEMBER 26
Thanksgiving Day

Cantor

NOVEMBER 28/29
**First Sunday
of Advent**

5:00pm Mass

Cantor

8:30am Mass

Cantor

10:30am Mass

Cantor

Faith Formation

Teach and Live the Gospel

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

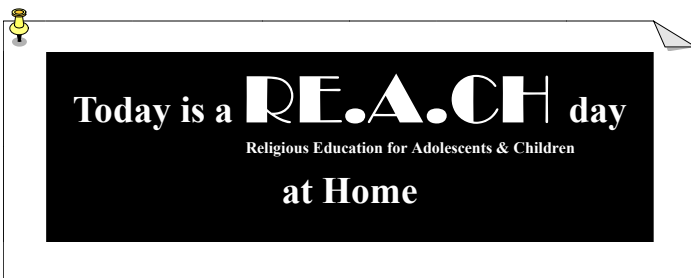
*Gratitude . . . the sweetest of all the practices . . .
mindfulness of gratitude leads to a direct experience of being connected to life . . .
to the realization that there is a larger context in which your personal story is unfolding.*

*Cultivating thankfulness for being part of life blossoms into a feeling of being blessed . . .
an appreciation for the interdependent nature of life . . .
being consciously grateful to family, friends, teachers, benefactors and to all
who have come before you who have made it possible for your existence
to be comfortable, informed, and empowered.*

*Gratitude elicits feelings of generosity . . . creating further joy . . .
softening a heart . . . building the capacity for forgiveness . . .
meeting life with an open heart . . . in each moment as it arises.*

Wishing you a Happy Thanks-Giving . . .

—Reflection excerpt: "Selfless Gratitude" by Phillip Moffitt



PBJ Update

(Food for children at the Emergency Crisis Center)

2009 GOAL: 365 jars
Collected to date: 649 jars !



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

Information for Growth

2—answer

What is the liturgical year?

B) the celebration of the great feasts in the Church's
life of prayer, with Easter as its focal point

(CCC 1168 = Catechism of the Catholic Church,
bold paragraph number 1168)



3—question

Which best describes the Church's call to evangelize?

- A) to serve the needs of all people
- B) to be a safe place separate from the world
- C) to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to all the world
- D) to offer a place where people can experience community



STM Dine Out Fundraiser Update



*Thank you to everyone who
supported our Dine Out Fundraiser.*

*STM will be receiving \$440
from this event.*

Calling All Angels!

It's time again to bring Christmas joy to those children who otherwise might go without. The Christmas Angel tree is up this weekend with ornaments for gifts of all kinds—baby items, toys, and gift cards for girls and boys of all ages. To make shopping easier for some, gift cards can be purchased through the STM Scrip Program, which benefits both Scrip and Christmas Angels. This year we are supporting North County Solutions for Change, Catholic Charities, Birth Choice, and other local charities.



Again this year, we will support families at our sister parish, St. Peter Claver in New Orleans. So sponsor a family (alone or join with others), and provide them with a personalized package. See the volunteers at our table for a family name and details.

The generosity of STM parishioners has always been overwhelming despite the troubled economy. Join us at the tree, choose your ornaments and pray for the continued success of the Christmas Angel Ministry. What better way to earn your halo this season?

To achieve immediate Angel status, kindly volunteer to help at the weekend Masses and on Saturday, December 12, to stuff stockings and gift bags!

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

Little Books

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

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.



Religious Christmas Cards

The Saint Thomas More Knights of Columbus Council 11439 will be selling Religious Christmas Cards on the Plaza after all Masses through December 20. For more information, contact Al Rouse at 760-806-8030.

Are You Available from 8:45-9:15am on Saturdays?

Once or twice a month, we can use more help setting up chairs for Mass on the weekends. You have probably noticed that we need to take all the chairs down on occasion for maintenance and special events. Wonderful people like you help us get them back in place. For information, call Lorraine at 760-758-4100 x102.

Women's Guild News

Mark your calendars for our December meeting on December 8. We will have a special holiday menu and will be treated to organ music and a presentation of information about the organ by Sally Fay, our church organist. This meeting will begin on the upper level and then continue for lunch on the lower level via the stairs or elevator. Sally is preparing a wonderful program you won't want to miss.

Next board meeting is on Tuesday, December 1, at 10:00am at Valerie Thompson's home.

Catholic Charities Needs You!

Operating on volunteer power, the Vista Food Resource Center serves emergency food and distributes government commodities for over 2,700 people a month! We make shelter, medical, and rental referrals to other community agencies and assist an average of 50 families monthly to apply for food stamps. We have immediate openings for intake workers, food distribution assistants, and delivery drivers (bring your own truck). Training provided. The hours are Monday-Friday 9:00am-12:00pm and 1:00-4:00pm. Join our team and help your neighbors in need. For more information, please call Lisa at 760-631-4792.

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.

News from the Larger Church

Molina Family & Friends of the Poor Children's Christmas Party in Oceanside—Parishioner Vicky Molina and her family are hosting their 26th annual event for children of poor families. Contributions of toys for children up to age 10 or monetary contributions are appreciated. For more information, contact Vicky at 760-630-1983.

Lunch Served for Seniors in Oceanside—The Salvation Army Senior Dining and Social Center, 3935 Lake Blvd, Oceanside (near Emeritus at 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

Online Auction Opportunity—The St. Francis School online auction is back! A variety of items are available for bidding. Go to www.catholicauctionsonline.com to see what's for sale. All proceeds benefit the students of St. Francis Catholic School.

Sex Addicts Anonymous in San Diego—A twelve-step program of recovery based on the principles of Alcoholics Anonymous. Our primary purpose is to stop our addictive sexual behavior and to help others recover from their sexual addiction. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop addictive sexual behavior. Our fellowship is open to women and men regardless of religion, race, ethnic background, marital status, sexual orientation, or profession. Our members define their own sexual boundaries with the guidance of their sponsors and other group members. Meetings are NOT a place to meet sexual partners, and most people who are in recovery are serious about their recovery. For more information, contact San Diego SAA at 800-869-2112 or sdsaa@hotmail.com or www.sexaa.org.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service in Escondido—Tuesday, November 24, 7:00pm, at St. Timothy Church, 2960 Canyon Rd., Escondido. Sponsored by the Escondido Clergy Association, this annual service of praise and thanksgiving features the combined choirs from seven area churches. Free will offering taken for Interfaith Community Services. For more information, contact Mimi at 760-638-1900.

Christ in Evolution Discussion at the University of San Diego—Tuesday, December 1, 5:00-6:15pm, Salomon Hall, Bishop Maher Hall, USD. A discussion of the book by Ilia Delio, OSF, in preparation for a keynote address on February 11, 2010. For more information, contact 619-260-4784 or ccs@sandiego.edu.

Sung Contemplative Rosary in San Diego—Friday, December 4, 4:00-7:00pm at San Rafael Catholic Church, 17252 Bernardo Center Dr., Rancho Bernardo Center Drive, San Diego.

Choral Concert in San Diego—The University of San Diego Community Choir and Choral Scholars presentation of Lessons and Carols will be held in the University of San Diego's Founders Chapel on Friday, December 4, at 8:00pm and Sunday, December 6, at 2:00pm. The singing will include Vivaldi's Gloria in Excelsis Deo, a magnificent full orchestra and 65 voice chorus.

Staying Awake: Some Advent Attitudes Session at the University of San Diego—Saturday, December 5, 9:00am-12:00noon, Salomon Hall, Bishop Maher Hall, USD. Presented by Annice Callahan, RSCJ. For more information, contact 619-260-4784 or ccs@sandiego.edu.

Collection for National Needs

Envelopes were attached to the bulletin the first weekend in November for the 2009 Collection for National Needs, which supports the Black and Indian Missions, the Catholic Home Missions, the Catholic Communication Campaign, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, and the Catholic University of America. The envelopes may be returned any time during the month of November. Thank you for your generosity!

It's Christmas Again—A Children's Book

Copies of the children's book by Rev. Rich Lewandowski, *It's Christmas Again*, will be available at the information table on the Plaza after Mass today.

It's Christmas Again tells the story of a time when everyone forgot the reason people celebrated Christmas. A child asks "Why do we celebrate December 25?" and no one knows the answer. The whole world was so busy buying gifts and decorating trees, but it had forgotten why December 25 was a holiday.

At \$15, this book makes a wonderful Christmas gift for all who realize and want to promote the true meaning of Christmas in an easily understandable and enjoyable manner.

Father Rich will direct *A Retreat for a New Year and New Resolutions* here at St. Thomas More at the beginning of January, 2010. He can easily be coaxed to sign his books for you when he visits our Parish at the start of the new year.

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!



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

Parish Contacts

Updated 11/08/09

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
 Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs Regina Aulisio 760-295-5530
 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
 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 760-453-2876
 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 Diantha Zschoche 760-685-0081
 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

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 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
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 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

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United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

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HEALTH CARE REFORM UPDATE—HOW YOU CAN HELP

U.S. House Keeps Abortion Funding Out of Health Care Reform

Tell Senators: Follow the House's Lead on Removing Abortion Funding

Protect Conscience Rights

Ensure Affordable Health Coverage

Allow Immigrants to Purchase Private Health Insurance

As long-time advocates of health care reform, the U.S. Catholic bishops continue to make the moral case for genuine health care reform that will protect the life, dignity, consciences and health of all, especially the poor and vulnerable.

- On November 7, the U.S. House of Representatives passed major health care reform that reaffirms the essential, longstanding and widely supported policy against using federal funds for elective abortion coverage.
- It is critical that the Senate adopt the House-approved Stupak Amendment language on this issue. This Amendment ensures that Americans are not forced to pay for the destruction of unborn children as part of needed health care reform.
- The Senate must address other essential moral priorities: protecting conscience rights; making health coverage more affordable and accessible for those in need; and ensuring that immigrants do not lose or will not be denied health care coverage needed for the good of their families and the health of society.

ACTION: Contact Senate and House Members through e-mail, phone calls or FAX letters.

- **To send a pre-written, instant e-mail to Congress go to www.usccb.org/action.**
- Call the U.S. Capitol switchboard at: 202-224-3121, or call your Members' local offices. Full contact info can be found on Members' web sites at www.house.gov & www.senate.gov.

MESSAGE—SENATE:

"Please adopt the House-approved Stupak Amendment that upholds longstanding policies against abortion funding, and please protect conscience rights in health care reform. Health care must be made more affordable and accessible to those in need, and immigrants must not lose or be denied health care coverage."

MESSAGE—HOUSE:

"I am pleased that the House-passed health care reform bill maintains the longstanding policy against federal funding of abortion. Please work to ensure that this essential provision is included in any final bill sent to the President."

WHEN: The Senate schedule is uncertain. **Act today! Thank you!**

For more information on proposed legislation and the bishops' position on authentic health care reform, visit: www.usccb.org/healthcare.

11-13-09

