

# 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

**December 6, 2009 • Second Sunday of Advent**

## Pastor's Column

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

### Prepare the Way of the Lord

As we continue our journey through the Season of Advent this weekend, we focus upon John the Baptist, who prepared the way for Jesus.

The voice in the wilderness cries out: "Prepare the Way of the Lord." In John, we see and hear a message of urgency and immediacy.

So often, as we make our journey of Faith, we become dulled and deadened to life around us. We "sleepwalk" through life, missing the presence of God in our midst, and we take for granted the love and care of family members and friends.

Advent is meant to be a time to shake and arouse us to God in our midst and life around us. Time is marching on! Unfortunately, we often lack that appreciation and only become aware when some event, usually tragic or difficult, shakes our foundations. And only

then, do we look at God, others, and ourselves with a fresh set of eyes, the eyes of Faith.

During this Season of Advent, we, as a Faith Community, are reminded of our common vocation to follow in the footsteps of John the Baptist and to prepare the way of the Lord, to remind the world around us that the Kingdom of God is at hand.

We do so through our activities and involvements in the community of life around us, specifically in the areas that we call home, Carlsbad, Oceanside, and Vista. We are to be a voice, and a beacon of light, that points to Jesus, and His healing message of love.

In a very physical way, even our Parish Campus becomes a symbol and reminder of what the future holds for each of us—eternity. When people see a Church, when they hear a bell toll,

*(Continued on page 2)*

**Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**  
**Tuesday, December 8 • Masses at 8:15am and 7:00pm**  
**Please join us!**



## 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)*

when they see a tower with a cross, they are instantly jarred into remembering that life on Earth is temporary. We have come from somewhere and we are going somewhere. With this faith perspective, we then, hopefully, live life in a kinder and gentler way; celebrating each day as a gift.

I would encourage us to keep in mind this symbolic importance of the Church we are building. It is not a monument to give us glory, but to give God glory and to be of assistance to God's people, those in our Faith Community, and all in our Civic Community, to live life more kindly and gently.

We are nearing the time of beginning the construction of our permanent Worship Space. You will hear more about all of this in January. During these days, please pray for the success of the next phase of our Capital Campaign as we now complete the final preparatory steps.

In the meantime, as we continue our journey through this Season of Advent, let us recommit ourselves to our vocation to follow in the footsteps of John the Baptist: "Prepare the Way of the Lord!"

*F. Mike*

### Retirement Fund for Priests and Religious

Envelopes are attached to the bulletin this week. Your generosity will be much appreciated by the retired priests and religious who benefit! Envelopes may be returned any time during the month of December.

### 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*

## Readings for the Week Ahead

Sunday Year C; Weekday Year II  
Readings online at [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org).

### Sunday, December 6 (6)

*Second Sunday of Advent*

Baruch 5:1-9

Psalm 126:1-6

Philippians 1:4-6,8-11

Luke 3:1-6

### Monday, December 7 (181)

*Ambrose, bishop, doctor*

Isaiah 35:1-10

Psalm 85:9-14

Luke 5:17-26

### Tuesday, December 8 (689)

*The Immaculate Conception  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

Genesis 3:9-15,20

Psalm 98:1-4

Ephesians 1:3-6,11-12

Luke 1:26-38

### Wednesday, December 9 (183)

*Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin*

Isaiah 40:25-31

Psalm 103:1-4,8,10

Matthew 11:28-30

### Thursday, December 10 (184)

Isaiah 41:13-20

Psalm 145:1,9-13ab

Matthew 11:11-15

### Friday, December 11 (185)

*Damasus I, pope*

Isaiah 48:17-19

Psalm 1:1-4,6

Matthew 11:16-19

### Saturday, December 12 (690A)

*Our Lady of Guadalupe*

Zechariah 2:14-17 or

Revelation 11:19a;12:1-6a

Judith 13:18bcde,19 (Psalm)

Luke 1:26-38 or Luke 1:39-47

### Sunday, December 13 (9)

*Third Sunday of Advent*

Zephaniah 3:14-18a

Isaiah 12:2-6 (Psalm)

Philippians 4:4-7

Luke 3:10-18

## Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 5, 5:00pm

Donn Wilmott ☩

Sunday, December 6, 8:30am

Dominic Vienna, Sr. ☩

Sunday, December 6, 10:30am

Nicholas Angelucci, Sr. ☩

Tuesday, December 8, 8:15am

Kristie Anderson ☩

Tuesday, December 8, 7:00pm

Joseph Voza ☩

Wednesday, December 9, 8:15am

Kay Keenan ☩

Wednesday, December 9, 9:30am

Peggy Chambers

*Aegis*

Thursday, December 10, 8:15am

Claudia Youmans ☩

Friday, December 11, 8:15am

Bonnie DeMaris ☩

Saturday, December 12, 5:00pm

Nancy Bermudez ☩

Sunday, December 13, 8:30am

Mary Simonson ☩

Sunday, December 13, 10:30am

Mary Sarkis ☩

## Prayer List

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

Mary Alexander

Mary Baker

Patricia Barbour

Cindra Bell

John Bennici

Regina Bentz

George "Whitey" Betus

Beatrice Brooks & Family

Monica Broussard

Janet Brown

Roseanne Burg

Herman Calandro

Shelby Campbell

Claudia Caplinger

Tony Cazaleri

Emily Champ

Paul Cipowski

Marilyn Clarke

James Coleman

Thomas Cornwell & Family

Maria D'Acosta

Karen Flaharty Daley

Margie Daniels & Family

Cecilia DeSimone

Linda Dossman

Kathryn Ernst

The Fiore Family

Peggy & Jack Fischer

Ryan Flum

The Fox Family

Kathryn Franklin

Joe Freire

Carmen Garcia

Peter Gavin

The Gemar Family

Charles Gerarge, Jr.

Bob Godley

Rick Gonzalez

Rosemary Haefelin

Anita Hage

Susan Hallahan

The Harker Family

Rita Harnacker

Barry Henwood

Lilian Hills

Al & Jo Hoefner

Cynthia Horner

The Howard Family

Dorothy Jensen

Sue Johnston

The Kaup & Fisk Families

Darleen Kelch

Paul Kennedy

Debbie Kinney

George Kleekamp

Michael Kozak

Sr. Anne Kremenik

Helen Kuhn

Cirese LaBerge

Lillian Lachance

The LaChance Family

The Lamelin Family

Bernie Lanzrath

Rick Laver

Brandon LeBlanc

Dave & Stella Leué

Cassandra Loretto

Lauren Loretto

James MacArthur

Gloria Maupin

The Mauro & Northrup Families

Helen McCullough

Tom McGeary

Bob McWilliams

Carol Michael

The Miller Family

Howard Montgomery

Nancy Moore

Margie Myers

R. Northrup

Helen O'Connell

Ann O'Malley

Lupe Casas Pelletier

Helen Pingtella

Anne Post

John Puppington

Otila Quiroz

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

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](http://www.stmoside.org)) for complete  
calendar information.

### The Week Ahead

- Dec 6 Liturgy of the Word for  
Children at 8:30am Mass
- Dec 6 RE.A.CH Classes at Church
- Dec 6 Towers of Faith Reception
- Dec 8 Immaculate Conception of  
the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Masses at 8:15am and  
7:00pm
- Dec 12 Spirited Seniors  
Holiday Traditions Trip
- Dec 13 Liturgy of the Word for  
Children at 8:30am Mass
- Dec 13 RE.A.CH Classes at Church

### The Month Ahead

- Dec 14 Women's Guild Meeting
- Dec 16 Restaurant Fundraiser at  
Chili's
- Dec 24 Vigil of Christmas  
Masses at 4:00pm,  
6:00pm, and 10:00pm
- Dec 25 Christmas  
Mass at 9:30am
- Dec 31 Mary, the Mother of God  
Mass at 5:00pm

### Next Year—2010

- Jan 1 Mary, the Mother of God  
Mass at 9:30am
- Jan 1 Family Festival of  
Christmas
- Jan 11 Women's Guild Meeting
- Jan 17 RE.A.CH Classes at Church
- Jan 23 Women's Guild Game Day
- Jan 30 Liturgical Ministers  
Workshop
- April 30 Eleventh Annual  
Golf Classic
- Aug 22 Second Annual  
Pastor's Dinner

## 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, December 7
Sr. Irma Leticia Campos, SJS
Tuesday, December 8
Sr. Dolores CarlosCoutu, OLVM
Wednesday, December 9
Sr. Mary Lou Carlson, OSF
Thursday, December 10
Sr. Maria Casas, SJS
Friday, December 11
Sr. Margaret Castro, SFCC
Saturday, December 12
Sr. KyungAh Chang, RSCJ
Sunday, December 13
Sr. Abigail Chavez, SJS

**Welcome to Newly Registered Parishioners**

Joe & Barbara Barreras  
 Shannon Mawson & Family  
 Tom & Vonda Olsavsky & Family  
 Shanais Pelka & Family  
 Vincent Prusinskas

**In Memoriam**

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

**Everett LaChance**, who died last week. He is the son of Parishioners Jean-Marc & Lillian LaChance. His funeral services were held in La Habra. Please keep the family in your prayers.

**Hazelle Fox**, who died on November 29. Her Funeral Mass will be on Friday, December 11, at 10:30am at St. Thomas More. Please keep her family in your prayers.

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

**Rosary**

A communal Rosary is prayed after every morning Mass (Tuesday-Friday) in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Please join us!

**St. Francis and St. Thomas More Offertory Envelopes**

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

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**STM \$crip News**

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!*



**Middle School  
Youth Group**

Next Meeting  
Monday  
December 7  
7:00-8:30pm

**FEAR FACTOR  
is Back!**

**Twinkles with Mustard  
Sour Gummy Bears with Ketchup  
YUMMY !!!**

Questions? Contact Ron or Louise Briseno  
 at 760-758-4100 x153 or ronb@stmoside.org  
 Visit [www.stmoside.org/ym](http://www.stmoside.org/ym)

.....waiting  
 .....waiting  
 ...waiting

**high school youth group  
 monday night  
 december 7  
 7:00 to 8:45 pm**

**journey 2010 retreat  
 january 22-24, 2010  
 \$110.00**

**sign up now**

**call gale 760-726-7236 for info**

**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.

**St. Thomas More Vehicle Donation Program**

Do you have a vehicle you want to donate?

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





## Women's Guild News

Our December meeting is Monday, December 14, our usual second Monday, at 11:00am. We will have a special holiday menu of many delicious foods and will be treated to organ music and a presentation about the organ by Sally Fay, our church organist. This meeting will begin on the upper level and continue for the luncheon on the lower level via the stairs or elevator. Sally is preparing a wonderful program you won't want to miss. Call Valerie Thompson at 760-630-1703 or Mary Coxon at 760-599-8760. I will be reminding those who signed up to prepare food.

I have had several requests for soup recipes from our November luncheon. I will put together as many as I can and bring them to the December meeting.

Board meeting is Monday, December 7, at 10:00am at Valerie Thompson's home.

## 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.

## Christmas Angel Update

Thank you to everyone who has visited our Christmas Angel tree. We are off to a great start but still have plenty of ornaments available for toys and gift cards. We also have several families from St. Peter Claver in New Orleans still waiting for adoption.

Stop by the table on the plaza, choose a family, and prepare a mailing box full of gifts with a personal note for a joyous Christmas. We'll take care of the shipping. Two or more families or even a group of friends can share in the adoption.

We are asking that **all** gifts be returned this next week to ensure a timely delivery to each local charity's Christmas party or Santa's Shop and to New Orleans. (Gift cards from Scrip can help meet the deadline!)

Don't forget, our stocking stuffer party is Saturday, December 12 at 10:00am on the lower level.

**We need angels big and small; we need angels one and all!**

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



## 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](mailto:ronb@stmoside.org).

## Thank You from Interfaith Community Services

Dear STM Parishioners,

We appreciate your kind gift of \$748 and the food donations from your Thanksgiving concert that we received on November 17. As the holidays approach, Interfaith is serving more people than ever before.

Recently we compared the months of August and September 2007, 2008, and 2009. The number of families seeking emergency assistance at Interfaith increased from 1,503 to 2,030 to 2,822, a two-year increase of 88%. First visits increased 43%. The number of individuals given help increased 53%. And most surprising, the number of two-parent families seeking and receiving help increased 86%.

Two years ago Interfaith helped more than 28,000 people in extreme need; that increased dramatically last year to 33,700 people. These statistics represent real people facing desperate situations. With your giving, and the help of more than 3,465 volunteers at Interfaith, these people are receiving help, and their hope for a better future is retuning. As a result, our communities are healthier and safer.

While people in need from every community in North County are coming to Interfaith in increasing numbers, a corresponding increase in donors and volunteers is also coming from every community. The number of faith centers involved in Interfaith has increased from 421 last year, to 451 today. Help from foundations, businesses, service clubs, and individuals is also vital to this great work.

We appreciate the vision and the spirit with which you continue to help friends, neighbors, and strangers in need. On behalf of all of them, thank you for your kindness.

—Sincerely, Suzanne Stewart Pohlman  
Executive Director, Interfaith Community Services

**Next Restaurant Fundraiser  
Chili's - Wednesday, December 16  
Watch for the Flyer Next Week!**

# Liturgy & Music

Worship God

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

## CELEBRATING MARY THIS WEEK

### Immaculate Conception December 8

A feast called the Conception of Mary arose in the Eastern Church in the seventh century. It came to the West in the eighth century. In the eleventh century it received its present name, the Immaculate Conception. In the eighteenth century it became a feast of the universal Church.

In 1854 Pius IX gave the infallible statement: "The most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instant of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege granted by almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the savior of the human race, was preserved free from all stain of original sin."

It took a long time for this doctrine to develop. While many Fathers and Doctors of the Church considered Mary the greatest and holiest of the saints, they often had difficulty in seeing Mary as sinless—either at her conception or throughout her life. This is one of the Church teachings that arose more from the piety of the faithful than from the insights of brilliant theologians. Even such champions of Mary as Bernard and Thomas Aquinas could not see theological justification for this teaching.

Two Franciscans, William of Ware and Blessed John Duns Scotus, helped develop the theology. They point out that Mary's Immaculate Conception enhances Jesus' redemptive work. Other members of the human race are cleansed from original sin after birth. In Mary, Jesus' work was so powerful as to prevent original sin at the outset.

### Our Lady of Guadalupe December 12

The feast in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe goes back to the sixteenth century. Chronicles of that period tell us the story.

A poor Aztec peasant named Cuauhtlatohuac was baptized and given the name Juan Diego. He was a 57-year-old widower and lived in a small village near Mexico City. On Saturday morning, December 9, 1531, he was on his way to a nearby barrio to attend Mass in honor of Our Lady.

He was walking by a hill called Tepeyac when he heard beautiful music like the warbling of birds. A radiant cloud appeared and within it a young Native American maiden dressed like an Aztec princess. The lady spoke to him in his own language and sent him to the bishop of Mexico. The bishop was to build a chapel in the place where the lady appeared.

Eventually the bishop told Juan Diego to have the lady give him a sign. About this same time Juan Diego's uncle became seriously ill. This led poor Diego to try to avoid the lady. The lady found Diego, nevertheless, assured him that his uncle would recover and provided roses for Juan to carry to the bishop in his cape or tilma.

When Juan Diego opened his tilma in the bishop's presence, the roses fell to the ground and the bishop sank to his knees. On Juan Diego's tilma appeared an image of Mary exactly as she had appeared at the hill of Tepeyac. It was December 12, 1531.

Our Lady of Guadalupe is Patron Saint of the Americas and of Mexico.



### Upcoming Music

#### DECEMBER 8 Immaculate Conception of Mary

8:15am Mass

Cantor

7:00pm Mass

Adult Choir

#### DECEMBER 12/13 Third Sunday of Advent

5:00pm Mass

Cantor

8:30am Mass

Handbell Choir

10:30am Mass

Adult Choir

**Masses at St. Thomas More  
8:15am & 7:00pm**

**Mass & Mañanitas at  
St. Francis - 5:00am**



### Children's Christmas Choir

**The Children's Choir returns  
for the Christmas season!**

**All children, grades 2-8 are  
invited to sing in the  
Children's Christmas Choir.**

### REHEARSALS

**Wednesdays  
December 9 and 16  
5:00-6:15pm**

**Thursday, December 23  
7:00-7:45pm  
(with the combined choirs)**

### CHRISTMAS EVE

**Thursday, December 24  
4:00pm Mass**

### FAMILY FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS

**Friday, January 1  
7:00pm Festival**

**JOIN US!!!**

## Faith Formation

Teach and Live the Gospel

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

We recognize those who celebrated the  
Sacrament of Reconciliation  
for the first time:

Christopher Francis Beauchamp  
Carson Robert Beissel  
Jaden Luna Chavez  
Brandon Adam Cruz  
Justin Alan Cruz  
Ryan Moses Cruz  
Bryan Scott Duncan  
Isaac Ruben Gonzalez  
Catherine Jocelle Guerra  
Abigail Marie Keane  
Trent Edward Kizer  
Alexandria Gabriella Lomeli



Sydney K. Lorton  
Lauren Elise Molony  
Melyssa Marie Oliva  
Victoria Catherine Papania  
Sophia Claire Perun  
Nicole Antonia Pocina  
Cole Saxon Prosser  
Stephanie Ramirez  
Brianna Teresa Rolfini  
Austin Riley Toland  
Kyra Bryony White  
Alexis Rose Zakrewsky  
Jordan Danielle Zakrewsky



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

Church Session:

December 6

Church Session:

December 13

Home Session:

December 20

Home Session:

December 27

Home Session:

January 3

Home Session:

January 10



Church Session:

January 17

*\*Check your Annual Plan for each week's lesson.*



## New Year Retreat

*Save the dates!*



We are pleased to offer a Parish Retreat  
January 2-9, 2010  
with Fr. Rich Lewandowski  
entitled *A Retreat for A New Year.*

January 4 • 7:00pm • All welcome, especially our youth

*"It's none of my business what other people think of me,  
but affirmation sure feels good!"*

January 5 • 9:00am or 7:00pm

*From Resentments to Forgiveness*

January 6 • 9:00am or 7:00pm

*Sharing Secrets and Finding Freedom*

January 7 • 7:00pm

*Letting Go... A Time for Healing*

## PBJ Update

Food for children at the Emergency Crisis Center  
at Catholic Charities in Vista)

2010 GOAL:

365 jars

Collected to date:

18 jars



## Information for Growth

### # 4—Answer

Which statement about Jesus Christ represents  
Catholic belief?



A) Jesus Christ is truly God and truly man. (CCC 464)

### # 5—Question

When Jesus was asked about the greatest  
commandment of all, he said that it is to



- A) walk the straight and narrow path.
- B) forgive those who sin against you.
- C) obey all persons with lawful authority.
- D) love God with all your heart, soul, and mind  
and love your neighbor as yourself.



# Stewardship & Development

Serve God's People

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

## CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

### All Is Gift

The story is told of a wealthy man who listened intently to the sermon one Sunday, and then invited the young minister to have lunch with him at his vast estate that afternoon.

After a gourmet meal, facilitated by servants, the rich man invited the minister out on his veranda. "Something you said in your sermon bothers me," he told the minister. "You said that everything belonged to God. But look at all of that," he said as he pointed to his fields, barns, and livestock. "I have worked very hard many years for all of that. It belongs to me, doesn't it?"

The minister, wise beyond his years, responded, "Ask me that question one hundred years from now."

It is prudent to put everything in perspective and realize that God gifted us with our ability and strength to achieve great things in the first place.

God blessed many of us with our place of birth, born into loving families that nurtured us along the way. But for the grace of God, we could have been born into extreme poverty in a number of other countries. I try to remember to thank God each day for the gift of being born in America.



Even during times of trial, God sustains us. We are never given more than we can handle (though sometimes it might seem that way, huh?!) ~ we grow stronger as Christians and closer to God through our trials. Ever notice how easy it is to stray a bit when things are going very well? God wants us to stay in touch all of the time.

As good Christian stewards we believe that God, who has begun this good work in us, will carry it through to completion.

The meaning of Christian stewardship has to do with 100%, rather than 2, 3, or even 10%.

We are all Christian stewards. The only uncertainty is what kind. It is God's house in which we live, and it is to God that we are responsible. We are God's managers.

In our words and deeds, we can all sing with the psalmist, "The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy!"

Ready and constant access to God is our birthright. By being available 24/7, God shows us just how much we are loved.

*What we are is God's gift to us.*

*What we make of ourselves is our gift to God.*

How are we doing?

*I am most grateful, dear God,  
for your listening heart of love, forgiveness,  
and renewal. ~ Amen.*

## 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](mailto:chriss@stmoside.org)

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

**"Did You Know?" Collection for November 2009  
\$1,892.00**

### Collection for Week of: November 28/29, 2009

Number of Registered Households:	1,011
Offertory*	\$ 6,312.04
Offertory (Loose Collection)	848.00
Children's envelopes	1.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 7,161.54</b>

\* 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.)

### 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) and automatic checking/savings account deduction. For more information, contact the Parish Office at 760-758-4100 x100 or [parish.office@stmoside.org](mailto:parish.office@stmoside.org).



## News from the Larger Church

**The Treasure Box Grocery Plan in North County**—is an economic meal program that provides a 21-25 lb. pre-assembled box of frozen food for \$30 (a savings of up to 65% off grocery store prices).

- One Treasure Box can feed a family of four for almost a week or an individual for nearly a month.
- The menu changes monthly but always includes 10-12 lbs. of protein (beef, chicken, pork, turkey, etc.), fruit, vegetables, side dishes, and a dessert.
- The Treasure Box is also great for seniors, new parents, and college students.
- There are no income qualifiers, no restrictions; it is available to everyone.

For more information, including locations in your area, please visit [www.thetreasurebox.org](http://www.thetreasurebox.org).

**EWTN Global Catholic Network Available**—Join EWTN in celebrating the birth of the Christ Child. EWTN is proud to bring you live Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses from Rome and Washington, DC, plus musical performances, animated features, specials for children, teens, and the entire family. Contact your cable or satellite provider for details, or call Joe Stevens at 760-726-8143.

**Volunteers Needed**—Become a child advocate and make a lasting difference in the life of a foster child. More than just a mentor, you can give hope to a child who has none. For more information, call Voices for Children at 858-569-2019 or visit [www.speakupnow.org](http://www.speakupnow.org).

**Help Military Families Enjoy a Nice Meal with Family During the Holidays**—Purchase a gift card for a local restaurant and send it to the address below. Chaplain Newman will distribute these to selected families.

Joel D. Newman, Commander, Chaplain Corps, USN  
Group Chaplain, Marine Aircraft Group 39  
Camp Pendleton, CA 92055  
760-725-8180

**Send DVDs to Our Troops in Afghanistan**—One of the most popular requests made by our soldiers is for DVDs that can be played on their computers. Action, Mystery, Thrillers, and Comedy (please no NC-17 rated) DVDs, used or new. For an added treat, you could include a phone card, powdered drinks (apple cider or cocoa), licorice, beef jerky (in small packages), and hard candy. Some other supplies they love are duct tape and one-inch bristle brushes. Address your packages to the addresses below in Afghanistan for our appreciative troops.

RPSN McCracken, T.K. (Chaplain's Assistant) MWSS 372 Unit 42020 FPO AO 96427-2020	LT.COL BORGSCHULTE HMLA-367(S1, CO) Unit 42065 FPO/AP 96427-2065
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**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

**Advent Retreat at Mission San Luis Rey in Oceanside**—Spend the last weekend of Advent in the midst of the gentleness and quiet which is the true gift of Christmas. Father Philip Garcia, OFM will use selected writings by Ronald Rolheiser, Basil Hume, Oscar Romero and Joyce Rupp as the basis for this time of quiet prayer and reflection on the presence of the *Quiet One of Advent*. Retreat begins on Friday with dinner and ends with lunch on Sunday. Please pre-register. For additional information contact 760-757-3659 or [www.sanluisrey.org](http://www.sanluisrey.org).

**Bookstore in San Diego Closed for Renovations**—Pauline Books & Media, 5945 Balboa Ave., San Diego, will be closed temporarily for renovations from December 28, 2009 to March 15, 2010. Prior to closing, from December 12-24, all Christmas merchandise will be discounted at 50%. Pauline Books & Media is also located at 3908 Sepulveda Blvd. In Culver City. Telephone: 310-397-8676; e-mail: [losangeles@pauline.org](mailto:losangeles@pauline.org). They can ship items from there or from their on-line store at [www.pauline.org](http://www.pauline.org). For more information, call 858-565-9181.

**Ongoing Diocesan Workshops**—Various topics related to religious education. For details, contact [www.diocese-sdiego.org/evangelization.htm](http://www.diocese-sdiego.org/evangelization.htm) or 858-490-8230.

**Marriage Encounter Weekends**—For more information, contact [daveandcheryl@cost.net](mailto:daveandcheryl@cost.net) or 619-303-5053.

**Natural Family Planning Classes**—For more information, contact [daveandcheryl@cox.net](mailto: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.

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

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

### Advent Reconciliation Services at Local Parishes

Date	Time	Parish
Wed., Dec. 9	7:00pm	St. Patrick, Carlsbad
Thu., Dec. 10	10:00am	St. James, Solana Beach
Mon., Dec. 14	7:00pm	Nativity, Fairbanks Ranch
Wed., Dec. 16	7:00pm	St. John, Encinitas
Fri., Dec. 18	7:00pm	St. Elizabeth Seton, Carlsbad
Mon., Dec. 21	6:30pm	St. Mark, San Marcos
Tue., Dec. 22	6:00pm	St. Peter, Fallbrook



1450 SOUTH MELROSE DRIVE · OCEANSIDE, CA 92056 · PHONE: 760-758-4100 · FAX: 760-758-4165  
[www.stmoside.org](http://www.stmoside.org) · [parishoffice@stmoside.org](mailto: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** ..... **Jen Frost 760-758-4100 x100**  
 ACTTS Young Adults ..... Jen Frost [actts@stmoside.org](mailto: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 ..... Vlad Bolsakov 760-758-4100 x100

### Pastoral Staff

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

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