

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 25, 2009 • The Nativity of the Lord
December 27, 2009 • The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Pastor's Column

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

Come Home For Christmas

We hear much about “coming home” for the holidays. My Christmas greetings and prayers for you and yours are contained in these words from Fr. Henri Nouwen:

Coming Home

There are two realities to which you must cling. First, God has promised that you will receive the love you have been searching for. And second, God is faithful to that promise. So stop wandering around. Instead, come home and trust that God will bring you what you need. Your whole life you have been running about, seeking the love you desire. Now it is time to end that search. Trust that God will give you that all-fulfilling love and will give it in a human way.

Before you die, God will offer you the deepest satisfaction you can desire. Just stop running and start trusting and

receiving. Home is where you are truly safe. It is where you can receive what you desire. You need human hands to hold you there so that you don't run away again. But when you come home and stay home, you will find the love that will bring rest to your heart.

Many of us have found our way home. Many of us continue to search. The Faith Community of St. Thomas More is here for all of us.

As Pastor, I pledge that I will do all that I can to ensure that our Parish will be a place and a people where you are truly safe; where you can share your story in trust; where, with other seekers, you will find human hands to hold you so that you don't run away again.

(Continued on page 2)

Have a happy and blessed **Christmas Season!**

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)*

For those of us who are here every week, we have found rest for our hearts. This Christmas, we give thanks to God!

For those of us who are guests this weekend and who do not have a faith community and are looking for a home, please come back again and again!

If you feel the call to belong to a Faith Community, but are not sure how to go about it, feel free to give me a call or set up an appointment. I would welcome an opportunity to chat with you.

Come home for Christmas!

Merry Christmas to you and yours!

Fr. Mike

Retirement Fund for Priests and Religious

Data submitted to the National Religious Retirement Office reveals that the average annual cost of care for women and men religious age 70 and over has more than doubled since 1989. Your generosity will be much appreciated by the retired priests and religious who benefit! Envelopes were attached to the bulletin a couple of weeks ago and may be returned any time during the month of December.

Rosary

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



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.

Sunday, December 27 (17)

*The Holy Family of Jesus,
Mary, and Joseph*

Sirach 3:2-7,12-14

Psalm 128:1-5

Colossians 3:12-21

Luke 2:41-52

Monday, December 28 (698)

The Holy Innocents, martyrs

1 John 1:5-2:2

Psalm 124:2-5,7c-8

Matthew 2:13-18

Tuesday, December 29 (202)

Fifth Day in the

Octave of Christmas

Thomas Becket, bishop martyr

1 John 2:3-11

Psalm 96:1-3,5b-6

Luke 2:22-35

Wednesday, December 30 (203)

Sixth Day in the

Octave of Christmas

1 John 2:12-17

Psalm 96:7-10

Luke 2:36-40

Thursday, December 31 (204)

Seventh Day in the

Octave of Christmas

Sylvester I, pope

1 John 2:18-21

Psalm 96:1-2,11-13

John 1:1-18

Friday, January 1 (18)

Mary, the Mother of God

Numbers 6:22-27

Psalm 67:2-3,5-6,8

Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 2:16-21

Saturday, January 2 (205)

Basil the Great, Gregory

Nazianzen, bishops, doctors

1 John 2:22-28

Psalm 98:1-4

John 1:19-28

Sunday, January 3 (20)

The Epiphany of the Lord

Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm 72:1-2,7-8,10-13

Ephesians 3:2-3a,5-6

Matthew 2:1-12

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 26, 5:00pm
Carl Bechtold ☩

Sunday, December 27, 8:30am
Carl Bechtold ☩

Sunday, December 27, 10:30am
Cairo Salvatierra ☩

Tuesday, December 29, 8:15am
Communion Service

Wednesday, December 30, 8:15am
Communion Service

Thursday, December 31, 5:00pm
Isabelle Browne ☩

Friday, January 1, 9:30am
Mark Johnson

Saturday, January 2, 5:00pm
Patricia Tomaszewski ☩

Sunday, January 3, 8:30am
Larry Fisk ☩

Sunday, January 3, 10:30am
Mary Ann Treister ☩

Prayer List

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

Mary Alexander
Sandra Andrews
Mary Baker
Maria V. Balli
Patricia Barbour
Cdr. Thomas Bartholomew, USN
(Ret.)
John Bennici
Regina Bentz
George "Whitey" Betus
Bruce Bousquet
Beatrice Brooks & Family
Monica Broussard
Janet Brown
Roseanne Burg
Herman Calandro
Shelby Campbell
Claudia Caplinger
Tony Cazaleri
Paul Cipowski
Marilyn Clarke
James Coleman
Thomas Cornwell & Family
Chelena Craine
The D'Acosta & Moon Families
Karen Flaharty Daley
Margie Daniels & Family
Cecilia DeSimone
Linda Dossman
Chris Dumelle
Kathryn Ernst
The Fiore Family
Peggy & Jack Fischer
Ryan Flum
The Fox Family
Kathryn Franklin
Joe Freire
Carmen Garcia
The Gavin Family
Maribel & Marcelino Gil
Bob Godley
Rick Gonzalez
Rosemary Haeffelin
Anita Hage
Susan Hallahan
The Harker Family
Rita Harnacker
Barry Henwood
Lillian Hills
Al & Jo Hoefner
Cynthia Horner
Dorothy Jensen
Lois A.J. Johnson
Sue Johnston
Joan Jones
Darleen Kelch
Paul Kennedy
Debbie Kinney
George Kleekamp
Michael Kozak
Sr. Anne Kremenik
Helen Kuhn
Lillian Lachance
The LaChance Family
The Lamelin Family
Bernie Lanzrath
Rick Laver
Brandon LeBlanc
Ceil Lettis
Dave & Stella Leue
Cassandra Loretto
Lauren Loretto
James MacArthur
Irene Martinelli
Helen McCullough
Tom McGear

Bob McWilliams
Carol Michael
Howard Montgomery
Nancy Moore
Margie Myers
The Nolberto Navarro Family
R. Northrup
Helen O'Connell
The O'Malley Family
The Pato Family
Lupe Casas Pelletier
Helen Pingtella
Anne Post
Otila Quiroz
Janet Raiman
Isabel Ramirez & Family
Dort Riley
Sr. Loyola Romey
Dorothy Rouse
Rose Rowland
The Russo Family
Sandie Sanchez & Family
Nancy Scali
Richard Sikora
Jeanne Sisson
Nick Soltau
Ed Sox
Gilda Spiegl
Dorothy and Ray Staehr
Joan Stringer
Maria Surmenidis
Ms. Tammy
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, USN
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

**Parish Office closed from
December 24-January 4**

Dec 27 Liturgy of the Word for
Children at 8:30am and
10:30am Masses

The Month Ahead

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 at 7:00pm
Jan 3 Liturgy of the Word for
Children at 8:30am and
10:30am Masses
Jan 9-10 Knights of Columbus
Membership Drive
Jan 10 Knights of Columbus
Breakfast
Jan 11 Women's Guild Meeting
Jan 15 ACTTS Bowling Night
Jan 17 RE.A.CH Classes at Church
Jan 23 Women's Guild Game Day
Jan 24 North County Widows &
Widowers Mass &
Breakfast
Jan 30 Liturgical Ministers
Workshop
Apr 30 Eleventh Annual
Golf Classic
Aug 22 Second Annual
Pastor's Dinner
Oct 17 STM 25th Anniversary
Celebration

*Questions? Contact Henny at
760-758-4100 x100*

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.

December 28
Sr. Elaine Coutu, CSJ
December 29
Sr. Camille Crabbe, CVI
December 30
Sr. Adele Crettol, OSF
December 31
Sr. Irene Cullen, RSCJ
January 1
Sr. Alberta Curran, OCD
January 2
Sr. Rachel Daniels, SCMM
January 3
Sr. Rose Davis, RSM

Welcome to Newly Registered Parishioners**Roland & Linda Garvey****In Memoriam**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

Peter Gavin, who died on December 13. His Funeral Mass will be on Monday, January 4, at 11:00am at St. Thomas More. Please keep Peter'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.

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.

January 5 Rediscovering Catholicism Session Cancelled

The January 5 *Rediscovering Catholicism* session has been cancelled. You are encouraged to attend the talk given by Fr. Rich Lewandowski in place of the *Rediscovering Catholicism* session. All other sessions will be held as scheduled.

STM Scrip News

Thanks to all those who are using the Scrip Program. From December 1-6 we sold \$9,500 in gift certificates. This earned us \$535 for the STM Building Fund! That is awesome!!! If you have not tried Scrip, talk to someone who has. It's easy and costs you nothing extra—the merchants donate a percentage of your purchases to the STM Building Fund.

Scrip will not be sold from December 24 until January 5.

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!

Christmas Break High School News

No Monday Night Youth Group
December 28

Youth Group Resumes

Monday, January 4 at our Parish Retreat
"It's none of my business what other people think of me, but affirmation sure feels good!"

JOURNEY 2010

January 22-24

with musician Mark Reymundo

& High School Team

*For more information, call Gale
at 760-726-7236 or jettg@stmoside.org*

ACTTS

**Adult Catholics in their Twenties and Thirties
who Socialize**

Next event: Bowling Night on January 15

Watch for more details

actts@stmoside.org

Opportunity to Help Homeless Families

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



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

These dates in 2010 are available for dinner adoption:

**January 24, February 28, March 28, April 25,
May 23, June 27, August 22, September 26,
November 28, and December 26**

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

Women's Guild News

Remember to check those drawers, closets, and Christmas gifts for items you would like to donate to the annual Chinese auction. Bring unwrapped items to the January meeting, on Monday, January 11, where our auctioneer, Nancy Wozniak will attempt to describe each item. The fun begins at 11:00am.

Also, mark your calendars for our Game Day on Saturday, January 23. Bring your own cards, board games, or whatever you wish to play, and we will have several games available also. It is not necessary to have a group, as there are always a lot of singles anxious to start a group game or play bridge or hand and foot, or other games. It's fun for all, and husbands, children, and even grandchildren are invited. We will start the festivities with hors d'oeuvres and drinks, and proceed to a delicious luncheon. The cost will be \$10. Jen Frost and Sally Fay are chairing the event, and still need sign-ups for opportunity baskets, door prizes, finger sandwiches, hors d'oeuvres, and desserts. Please contact Jen at 858-692-7438 or Sally at 760-727-1766, or sign up at the January Chinese auction.

Women's Guild Christmas Raffle Results

Congratulations to the winners of the Christmas raffle!

\$200—Lorraine and Steve Doering
 \$300—Al and Donna Smith
 \$400—William Mazzarella
 \$500—Pina Shaw

Knights of Columbus Membership Drive

If you are a practical Catholic man, age 18 or older, we invite you to join the leading organization of Catholic laymen. Imagine being part of an organization that fills your heart and your mind with the joy of giving to others and the feeling that comes with making a difference. Being a Knight is more than camaraderie; it is being involved with your community; it is supporting your local Catholic church—St. Thomas More—while enhancing your own faith; it is about protecting and enhancing your family life. Please visit with the Knights on the Plaza after Masses on January 9-10 to find out what we are about and take the first steps in joining our local council.

Knights of Columbus Breakfast on January 10

Mark your calendars and watch for more details!

Knights of Columbus Basketball Free Throw Championship

All boys and girls ages 10-14 are invited to participate in the local level of competition for the 2010 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship. The local competition will be held on Sunday, January 24, after the 10:30am Mass at St. Thomas More. The free throw contest is sponsored annually with winners progressing through local, district, and state competitions. Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent. For entry forms or additional information, contact Jim Bailey at 760-754-1635 or Chuck Fay at 760-727-1766. See the Knights on the Plaza after most Masses in December and January to sign up.

The Parish Office and the Chapel will resume regular hours on Monday, January 4.

HELPFUL YEAR-END PLANNING TIPS YEAR-END CHECKLIST

- ♦ **Keep all gift receipts and all acknowledgment letters, especially for gifts of \$250 or more.**
- ♦ **BE SURE TO COMPLETE all gifts by December 31 to qualify for tax savings on this year's (2009) 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 during the weekend of December 26/27 will be credited for the year ending 2009.**

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

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

Christmas Angel Tree Transformation

Our beautiful tree has now been adorned with gold crowns listing baby gifts for Birth Choice of San Marcos. So take an ornament, enjoy Christmas, and start the New Year on a Pro-Life note. We will offer our gifts on the Feast of the Epiphany, the weekend of January 2-3.

Thank you to all who have participated in our Christmas Angel program. **What an overwhelming response!** So many children and St. Peter Claver families will benefit from **your** generosity.

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.

Liturgy & Music*Worship God*

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

A Family Festival of Christmas

Friday, January 1
 7:00 p.m.



CHRISTMAS

Upcoming Music

DECEMBER

26/27

The Holy
Family

5:00pm Mass

Cantor

8:30am Mass

Cantor

10:30am Mass

Cantor

DECEMBER 31/
JANUARY 1

Mary, the
Mother of God

5:00pm Mass

Cantor

9:30am Mass

Cantor

JANUARY 2/3
Epiphany

5:00pm Mass

Cantor

8:30am Mass

Handbell Choir

10:30am Mass

Adult Choir

Carols and Songs for Young and Old

featuring "A Very Beary Nutcracker"
 by Kathy Felker, puppeteer and ventriloquist

WITH MUSICAL OFFERINGS BY THE

Children's Christmas Choir

Youth Praise Team

Adult Praise Team

Handbell Choir

Adult Choir

A FREE EVENT FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!

LITURGICAL MINISTERS WORKSHOP

Required for new Eucharistic Ministers and Readers
 Saturday, January 30 ♦ 9:00am - 3:30pm

Look for Information and registration form in January's bulletins

The Christmas Season

Despite the appearance of decorations in September, Christians have always kept Christmas as a season from December 25 until January 6 (the traditional Epiphany). The church today extends the celebration until the feast of the Baptism of the Lord—the Sunday after Epiphany—January 10.

Next to the annual celebration of the paschal mystery—the Triduum and Easter season—the church holds most sacred the memorial of Christ's birth and early manifestations. This is the purpose of the Christmas season.

More than just "Jesus' birthday," the Christmas season is a time for remembering and reveling in the nativity of Christ, the revelation of Christ to the Jewish shepherds and to the Gentile magi, Christ's baptism by John in the Jordan, and Christ changing water into wine at the wedding in Cana. In all these saving events, we know that "the Word is made flesh and dwells among us."

How can we keep Christmas not just as a day, but as a season? Keep the tree up (and watered!), shining bright until the Baptism of the Lord. Sing carols and read the scriptures every day. Sing or say the prayer of the angels: Glory in heaven and peace on earth, now and forever. Amen!

Faith Formation

Teach and Live the Gospel

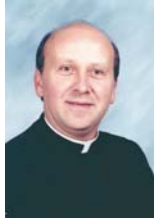
Kathleen Bell

Director of Faith Formation

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



A Retreat for A New Year



with Fr. Rich Lewandowski

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

Men's Prayer Breakfast

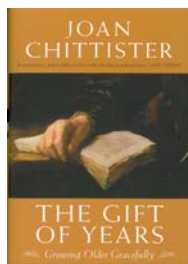
January 9 • 8:00-10:30am

A Spirituality of Imperfection

Sign up after Mass or call 758-4100 X 159 to RSVP so we have a breakfast count.

Fr. Mike's Bookies

The Gift of Years (Growing Old Gracefully) by Joan Chittister is our next book for discussion on February 3. It is available for \$15 outside the Faith Formation Office. Sr. Maureen will be facilitating the discussion.



"The Gift of Years is a series of thought-provoking meditations not just on 'growing older gracefully,' but on the ultimate meaning of life itself. This is a book rich in wisdom—a wisdom that comes only from a life well-lived and a carefully cultivated spirituality. It is a book that is destined to be a classic."

—Richard P. McBrien

PBJ Update

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

2010 GOAL: 365 jars

Collected to date: 40 jars



Today is a **RE.A.CH** day
at Home

Check your Annual Plan for this week's lesson

Teen Mini-Course—Sign up NOW!

(Open to all parish teens, even those who have been Confirmed)

January 10, 24, and 31

6:30-8:30pm

M-2 Sexuality: Challenges and Choices

Facilitator: Sharon Hamill

An opportunity to grow in understanding your sexuality in a healthy, holistic, and holy way.

(OR)

M-4 Parent-Teen Relationships

Facilitator: Linda Brault

Take time to explore the changing relationship with parents and improve your ability to communicate.

Learn ways to work on conflict resolution skills as well.

To sign up, email your choice and contact information to kathleenb@stmoside.org.

Information for Growth

7—Answer

Which describes the Catholic understanding of the relationship between the Church and the world?



- A) The Church has the responsibility to raise moral questions about politics and economics. (CCC : 2420)

8—Question

The Gospels were written



- A) in the third and fourth centuries by later believers.
B) by men who were among the first to have faith.
C) by professional historians.
D) while Jesus was alive.

Stewardship & Development

Serve God's People

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

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

Love and Generosity

As we celebrate the beginning of this blessed Christmas season, I share with you these thoughts from Marjorie Holmes:

Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. How many things a mother keeps, you think as you look about . . . Baby shoes. Battered little first books. Scrapbooks stuffed with pictures and souvenirs. A daughter's first prom dress . . . Such foolish things only a mother would cling to. All mothers, mothers like Mary, who have gone before—and mothers to come . . .

You feel a renewed kinship for that girl—Mother Mary. You wonder what reminders of His childhood did Mary, perhaps, save. His first little garments, or the sandals in which He learned to walk? A wooden toy cart perhaps, that His father had made for him in the carpenter shop? And what memories did they bring back to her later to ponder in her heart?

Christmas is for keeps. It comes each year and will go on forever. And along with Christmas belong the keepsakes and the customs. Those humble, everyday things that a mother clings to with her hands and ponders, like Mary, in the secret spaces of her heart. ~



Two days after Christmas this year, on Sunday, December 27, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. This is a timely liturgy and reminder that Jesus was fully human, raised by human parents during His time on this earth. God's perfect gift to us was raised by loving parents who shared similar parenting experiences that many of us do. We are reminded that Mary and Joseph went in search of their son "in great anxiety." They were understandably worried.

There are times when we worry about the young people in our lives. (Have you ever had a young child run off in a split second in a mall or crowd, in search of something that fascinates them? Remember the sickening fear experienced trying to find them?)

Keep in mind that, as parents, we lead by loving example. In doing so we find many times when children absolutely amaze us! As we are loving and generous to others, so too will our children be loving and generous, and emulate the example of Jesus.

I am constantly inspired by the generosity demonstrated by all generations at St. Thomas More. This faith community is truly incredible! Thank you for your efforts and ongoing renewal!

- ♥ Let us continue our good work throughout the year. As we see a need, and we are able, let us make a difference.
- ♥ Let us continue to smile and offer goodwill to all people.
- ♥ Let us remember that Jesus is with us 24/7. He doesn't limit availability to Christmas, Easter or even every Sunday.
- ♥ Let us be led by love, even when it means sacrifice, just as Jesus, Mary, and Joseph did.

*The mystery and miracle
of the incarnation makes every day
a Christmas celebration for the believer.*

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: December 19/20, 2009

Number of Registered Households:	1,012
Offertory*	\$ 9,505.80
Offertory (Loose Collection)	1,031.00
Children's envelopes	0.50
Total	\$ 10,537.30

* 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.

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.

News from the Larger Church

Mark Price Series in Vista—Unique presentations where Mark Price presents “In His Own Words” for specific bible characters. Catch all four appearances in 2010—St. Joseph on January 8, Judas Iscariot on February 5, Doubting Thomas on April 16, and Simon Peter on June 4, all at St. Francis Church, 525 W. Vista Way, Vista. Discount ticket packages available. For more information, visit www.stfrancis-vista.org/specialevents.htm or call 760-945-8000.

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). For more information, including locations in your area, please visit www.thetreasurebox.org.

New Year's Eve Celebration with Jesus for Young Adults in San Diego—Thursday, December 31, 10:30pm-1:30am, Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church, 1629 Columbia St., San Diego. For more information, contact Alex at adeipaulis011@gmail.com or Pia at ppuertollano@powayusd.com.

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.

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

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 daveandcheryl@cost.net or 619-303-5053.

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

Retrouvaille Retreat Program for Troubled Marriages—If your marriage is not what you want it to be, if communication has broken down, if you are divorced or separated, but want to repair your relationship, then Retrouvaille is for you. For more information, contact 951-259-9474 or www.helpourmarriage.com or 619-423-0182 (Spanish).

Vista Jail Catholic Ministry Needs Volunteers—The Catholic ministry team serving the men and women in the Vista Jail is expanding. They need more volunteers to serve on Monday afternoons, also Monday and Tuesday nights. Can you find a couple hours a week or a month to serve on a ministry team? Please explore this opportunity to help others and deepen your own relationship with God. Visit www.diocese-sdiego.org/restore or call the diocesan Restorative Justice office at 858-490-8375.

Winter Series of Theology on Tap for Young Adults in Mira Mesa—Mondays, January 18-February 8, 7:00-9:00pm, at Callahan's, 8111 Mira Mesa Blvd., Mira Mesa. For more information, visit www.yamsd.org or contact Carrie Giebel at cgiebel@diocese-sdiego.org or 858-490-8260.

Spiritual Exercises Silent Ignatian Retreats in Temecula—Presented by the priests of *Miles Christi*, the weekend of January 22-24 for women and young women and the weekend of February 12-14 for men and young men. For more information, contact Christine Timmerman at 209-357-0128 or california@spiritualexercises.net.

Spring Forward Catechetical Conference in San Diego—Saturday, January 23, 9:00am-12:30pm at St. Therese Social Center. Kathleen Hendricks, MA, will speak on *Praying Like Jesus*. For more information, call 858-490-8230 or visit www.diocese-sdiego.org/evangelization.htm

Praying for Life—A group of North County Parishioners meets on the third Monday of each month from 10:00-10:30am to peacefully pray the rosary in front of the Carlsbad Planned Parenthood Clinic, 1820 Marron Road, Carlsbad. For more information, call Jahna White at 760-586-6356.

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.

Tis the Season

I asked what does “Tis” mean.
I was told it is an acronym for what to do during the “Season.”

Thank the God of your understanding

Inquire about your neighbor

Serve those with less.

Sounds simple

Why then are we all in a frenzy

Thank you for the many blessing this year dear God

My neighbor has suffered the loss of

House

Job

Earned Income

Shelter

Food for his family

Faith

I can share my little extra

While I preserve his dignity

Serve his needs

I have enough faith to share

That can

Restore his Faith

Please make a donation Tis Season to
Interfaith Community Services, **it is simple.**
Call Interfaith at 760-489-6380 x224



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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 Anna Meyers 760-727-4998
 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
 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 **Lisa & Pat Attardo 760-940-1505**
 Golf Classic Jim & Suzy Bailey 760-754-1635
 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
 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

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A Family Festival of Christmas

Christmas Carols and Songs for Young and Old



featuring
“A Very Beary Nutcracker”
with Kathy Felker
puppeteer and ventriloquist

WITH MUSICAL OFFERINGS BY THE
Children's Christmas Choir
Youth Praise Team ♦ Adult Praise Team
Handbell Choir ♦ Adult Choir

A FREE EVENT FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!

Friday, January 1, 2010 ♦ 7:00 p.m.

1450 South Melrose Drive (at Cannon Road), Oceanside



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>January 2010</h1>					1 Mary, Mother of God Holy Day PARISH OFFICE CLOSED NO ADORATION 9:30 AM-Mass 7:00 PM-Family Festival of Christmas/All Choirs	2 Birth Choice Epiphany Collection 4:00 PM-Reconciliation Epiphany of the Lord 5:00 PM-Mass
3 Epiphany of the Lord Birth Choice Epiphany Collection 8:30 AM-Mass/LOWC 10:30 AM-Mass/LOWC 12:00 PM-Baptisms 6:30 PM-Confirmation Mini Course	4 Parish Retreat 7:00 PM-High School Youth Ministry @ Retreat 7:00 PM-P.U.S.H. @ Retreat 7:00 PM-Parish Retreat	5 Parish Retreat 8:15 AM-Mass 9:00 AM-Parish Retreat 7:00 PM- Parish Retreat	6 Parish Retreat 8:15 AM-Mass 9:00 AM-Parish Retreat 1:30 PM-Spirited Seniors Board Meeting 7:00 PM-Parish Retreat 7:00 PM-Adult RCIA @ Retreat	7 Parish Retreat 8:15 AM-Mass 9:00 AM-Donuts and Coffee 1:00 PM-Centering Prayer 7:00 PM-Parish Retreat with Healing Service	8 8:15 AM-Mass	9 8:00 AM-Men's Prayer Breakfast/Fr. Rich Lewandowski 4:00 PM-Reconciliation Baptism of the Lord 5:00 PM-Mass
10 Baptism of the Lord 8:30 AM-Knights of Columbus Breakfast 8:30 AM-Mass 10:30 AM-Mass/RCIA 6:30 PM-R.E.A.CH./High School/Mini Course	11 11:00 AM-Women's Guild Luncheon 7:00 PM-High School Youth Ministry 6:30 PM-Golf Classic Meeting	12 8:15 AM-Mass 9:00 AM-Donuts and Coffee 7:00 PM-Baptismal Preparation Part I 7:00 PM-Praise Teams Rehearsals 7:00 PM-Knights of Columbus	13 8:15 AM-Mass 8:45 AM-Scripture Study 6:30 PM-Handbell Choir 7:00 PM-Adult RCIA 7:00 PM-High School Youth Ministry – Eucharistic Adoration	14 8:15 AM-Mass 9:00 AM-Donuts and Coffee 10:00 AM-Women's Guild Quilters 1:00 PM-Centering Prayer 7:00 PM-Scripture Study 7:00 PM-Adult Choir	15 8:15 AM-Mass 7:00 PM-ACTTS - Bowling Night	16 8:00 AM-Adult CPR/AED 8:30 AM-PO&E Meeting 4:00 PM-Reconciliation 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 5:00 PM-Mass
17 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:30 AM-Mass/LOWC 10:20 AM-RE.A.CH 10:30 AM-Mass/RCIA 12:30 PM-RE.A.CH 5:00 PM-RE.A.CH.	18 Martin Luther King Jr. 8:15 AM-Mass 7:00 PM-P.U.S.H. 7:00 PM-High School Youth Ministry	19 8:15 AM-Mass 9:00 AM-Donuts and Coffee 7:00 PM-Knights of Columbus Officer's Meeting 7:00 PM-Rediscover Catholicism 7:00 PM-Praise Teams Rehearsals	20 8:15 AM-Mass 8:45 AM-Scripture Study 9:30 AM-Mass (Emeritus of Carlsbad 1:30 PM-Spirited Senior Board 4:00 PM-Staff Meeting 6:30 PM-Handbell Choir 7:00 PM-Adult RCIA	21 8:15 AM-Mass 9:00 AM-Donuts and Coffee 1:00 PM-Centering Prayer 7:00 PM-Scripture Study 7:00 PM-Adult Choir	22 High School Retreat Kamp Kuper 8:15 AM-Mass	23 High School Retreat 8:45 AM-Chair Set up 11:00 AM-Women's Guild Game Day 4:00 PM-Reconciliation 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 5:00 PM-Mass
24 High School Retreat 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:30 AM-Mass/LOWC 10:30 AM-Catholic Widows and Widowers 10:30 AM-Mass/LOWC/RCIA 6:30 PM-R.E.A.CH./High School/Mini Course	25 7:00 PM-High School Youth Ministry	26 8:15 AM-Mass 9:00 AM-Donuts and Coffee 7:00 PM-Baptismal Preparation Part II 7:00 PM-Praise Teams Rehearsals	27 8:15 AM-Mass 8:45 AM-Scripture Study 9:30 AM-Mass (Pacific Place) 6:30 PM-Handbell Choir 7:00 PM-Adult RCIA	28 8:15 AM-Mass 9:00 AM-Donuts and Coffee 10:00 AM-W. Guild Quilters 1:00 PM-Centering Prayer 7:00 PM-Parent Meeting for First Eucharist 7:00 PM-Scripture Study 7:00 PM-Adult Choir	29 8:15 AM-Mass 10:00 AM-Parish Social Justice Committee	30 9:00 AM-Liturgical Ministers Workshop 4:00 PM-Reconciliation 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time 5:00 PM-Mass
31 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:30 AM-Mass/LOWC 8:30 AM-Corporal Communion For K of C 10:20 AM-RE.A.CH 10:30 AM-Mass/RCIA 12:30 PM-RE.A.CH 5:00 PM-RE.A.CH. 6:30 PM-R.E.A.CH./High School/Mini Course	 <p>Watch for Exciting New Details on Phase II of our Capital Campaign Build Out Starting this Month</p> 				<p>Church of St. Thomas More 1450 South Melrose Drive, Oceanside, CA 92056 (760) 758-4100 www.stmoside.org</p>	