

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

January 10, 2010 • The Baptism of the Lord

Pastor's Column

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

Intentionality

(Dear Parishioners, this Pastor's Column was written in January 2004, six years ago! The words I wrote then ring even truer today. Know that I am so grateful, and I feel very honored to shepherd this community of deep faith!)

As we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, we close out the Christmas Season, and we look forward to the future celebrations of the Mysteries of our Faith in this coming Church Year.

It is with a heart full of gratitude that I thank God for having the opportunity to celebrate my first Advent/Christmas/Epiphany Seasons with you, the Church of St. Thomas More.

This community is truly an "intentional" community, that is, everyone who is here truly wants to be here, and desires to enter into the celebration of the Mysteries of our Faith.

That "intentionality" is so evident in all that we do as a community—from active participation "in the pews," to those who serve in various liturgical ministries in the Eucharistic Celebrations, to those who are "in the background" helping to "prepare the space and the ritual" for our celebrations.

All this takes much effort and sacrifice on the part of many people. Schedules and agendas need to change or to be adjusted in order to make the Faith Community of St. Thomas More a

(Continued on page 2)

Did You Know?

The economy continues to play havoc with our Operations Budget. The "Did You Know?" Campaign has helped greatly to "make ends meet." Your continued support is needed. If you are in a situation to do so, please consider a special gift to St. Thomas More with the use of a "Did You Know?" envelope.

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)*

priority. Please know that I am aware of that and know that, as your Pastor, you strengthen not only my ministry, but also, my Faith, as I see parishioners "being serious" about their Faith-life. Your intentionality "feeds" me, as a pastor, as I, hopefully, feed you through leading you in the celebration of the Eucharist and breaking open the Word of God with you through my homilies. Of course, in all these efforts, we know that it is the Lord who feeds us. We are His instruments.

Thank you to each and every one of you who helped to make the celebration of these liturgical seasons so prayerful and meaningful. Know that my heart is filled with gratitude. I will not single out any persons or groups. When that is done, so often, someone is missed. You know who you are what you have done. I know that the Lord is pleased!

As all of us make the necessary efforts and sacrifices in order to continue to live our community life here prayerfully and meaningfully, be mindful that we do so for the Lord, in order to give our God praise and thanksgiving.

At times, our efforts may be taken for granted or go on noticed. We may be hurt or discouraged at times. Yes, it is nice to be recognized and acknowledged, but that is not the reason that we do what we do. All of our individual efforts come together in a community effort to give our Loving Creator praise and thanksgiving. When we keep that focus, our hurt and discouragement will dissipate.

One of the many challenges that we face as a community is to preserve this sense of intentionality. As we continue to grow in numbers, we must resolve to make greater efforts in the area of hospitality, welcome, and personal invitation into the life of the community. I know that we can and will do that!

As we renew our Baptismal Promises this weekend, we, once again, "intention" ourselves to follow the Lord Jesus and to be active members of His Body as the Church of St. Thomas More.

F. Mike

Publicize Your Parish Event!

Would you like to publicize a Parish event to the general public? Submit a Press Release Form at least three weeks in advance of your event to have it advertised in local news publications. Press Release Forms are available:

- on the Parish website (www.stmoside.org, Contact Us, Parish Forms),
- the Parish office, or
- from Anne Marshall at 760-727-2668 or annemarshall@sbcglobal.net.



Seniors Special Needs and Services

Are you aware that there are many services for seniors with special needs in North County? One of the services is Interfaith Community Services, which helps elderly seniors in many ways. To obtain more information about senior services, please contact Ann Eriksson at 760-599-7151.

Readings for the Week Ahead

Sunday Year C; Weekday Year II
Readings online at www.usccb.org.

Sunday, January 10 (21)

The Baptism of the Lord
Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11
Psalm 104:1b-4,24-25,27-30
Titus 2:11-14,3:4-7
Luke 3:15-16,21-22

Monday, January 11 (305)

1 Samuel 1:1-8
Psalm 116:12-19
Mark 1:14-20

Tuesday, January 12 (306)

1 Samuel 1:9-20
1 Samuel 2:1,4-8 (Psalm)
Mark 1:21-28

Wednesday, January 13 (307)

Hilary, bishop, doctor
1 Samuel 3:1-10,19-20
Psalm 40:2,5,7-10
Mark 1:29-39

Thursday, January 14 (308)

1 Samuel 4:1-11
Psalm 44:10-11,14-15,24-25
Mark 1:40-45

Friday, January 15 (309)

1 Samuel 8:4-7,10-22a
Psalm 89:16-19
Mark 2:1-12

Saturday, January 16 (310)

1 Samuel 9:1-4,17-19;10:1
Psalm 21:2-7
Mark 2:13-17

Sunday, January 17 (66)

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Isaiah 62:1-5
Psalm 96:1-3,7-10
1 Corinthians 12:4-11
John 2:1-11

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 9, 5:00pm
Bernie Weiler ☩

Sunday, January 10, 8:30am
Frank Hannon ☩

Sunday, January 10, 10:30am
Ralph & Rafaella Vozza ☩

Tuesday, January 12, 8:15am
Tony Piccerillo ☩

Wednesday, January 13, 8:15am
Catherine Castagna ☩

Thursday, January 14, 8:15am
Phyllis Sether ☩

Friday, January 15, 8:15am
Alma Kruse ☩

Saturday, January 16, 5:00pm
Bridget Nieto ☩

Sunday, January 17 8:30am
Dutch Welsh ☩

Sunday, January 17, 10:30am
Joe Coccaro ☩

Prayer List

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

Mary Alexander
Sandra Andrews
Nancy Aquilera
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
Paul Cipowski
Marilyn Clarke
James Coleman
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
Kenneth Fisker
Ryan Flum
Kathryn Franklin
Joe Freire
James Galagher
Carmen Garcia
The Gavin Family
Maribel & Marcelino Gil
Bob Godley
Rick Gonzalez
Rosemary Haeffelin
Anita Hage
Susan Hallahan
The Harker Family
Rita Harnacker
Marge Heath
Barry Henwood
Lilian Hills
Cynthia Horner
Dorothy Jensen
Lois A.J. Johnson
Sue Johnston
Joan Jones
Darleen Kelch
Paul Kennedy
Debbie Kinney
George Kleekamp
Sr. Anne Kremenik
Helen Kuhn
Lillian Lachance
The Lamelin Family
Bernie Lanzrath
Rick Laver
Brandon LeBlanc
Ceil Lettis
Dave & Stella Leue
Cassandra Loretto
Lauren Loretto
James MacArthur
Brandi Madrid
Irene Martinelli
Helen McCullough
Tom McGeary
Bob McWilliams
Carol Michael
Howard Montgomery
Nancy Moore
Margie Myers
The Nolberto Navarro Family
Helen O'Connell
The O'Malley Family
The Pato Family
Lupe Casas Pelletier
Helen Pingtella
Anne Post
Otila Quiroz
Janet Raiman
Isabel Ramirez & Family
Virginia Regula
Dort Riley
Sr. Loyola Romey
Dorothy Rouse
Rose Rowland
The Russo Family
Sandie Sanchez & Family
Nancy Scali
Freda Schweitzer
Richard Sikora
Jeanne Sisson
Nick Soltau
Ed Sox
Gilda Spiegl
Dorothy and Ray Staehr
The Staehr Family
Joan Stringer
Maria Surmenidis
Ms. Tammy
Stephen Toth, Jr.
Arnie Velasco
The Verducco & Wood Families
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

Jan 9-10 Knights of Columbus Membership Drive
Jan 10 Knights of Columbus Breakfast
Jan 11 Women's Guild Meeting
Jan 13 Restaurant Fundraiser at California Pizza Kitchen
Jan 15 ACTTS Bowling Night
Jan 17 Liturgy of the Word for Children at 8:30am Mass
Jan 17 RE.A.CH Classes at Church

The Month Ahead

Jan 23 Women's Guild Game Day
Jan 24 North County Widows & Widowers Mass & Breakfast
Jan 30 Liturgical Ministers Workshop

The Year Ahead

Feb 25 Spirited Seniors Bus Tour to Huntington
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 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.

January 11	Sr. Maria Dowhaniuk, SFCC
January 12	Sr. James Louise Downey, OP
January 13	Sr. Margaret Doyle, SHCJ
January 14	Sr. Elizabeth Drew, SHCJ
January 15	Sr. Ann Marie Durano, MC
January 16	Sr. Ann Durst, SHCJ
January 17	Sr. Ray Monda DuVall, CHS

In Memoriam



Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

Ray Staehr, who died on December 25. His Funeral Mass will be on Tuesday, January 12, at 11:00am at St. Thomas More. Please keep Ray's wife Dorothy and the family in your prayers.

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

Opportunity to Help Homeless Families

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



Many thanks to those who have stepped up to supply two of the twelve 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.*

STM Scrip News

Thanks to all those who are using the Scrip Program. If you have not tried it, consider taking advantage of this easy method—merchants contribute a percentage of every dollar you spend to the St. Thomas More Building Fund.

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 SCRIP table after weekend Masses or the Parish Office during the week. Thank you!

High School Youth
The Blame Game
 at
Monday Night Youth Group
January 11
7:00 to 8:30 PM

Come Waste time With Jesus
Eucharistic Adoration
Wednesday, January 13
7:00 Chapel
8:30 Pick Up at Starbucks RBV

JOURNEY 2010 Retreat
registration closed

Call gale 760-726-7236

ACTTS
Adult Catholics in their Twenties and Thirties
who Socialize

No plans on Friday night? Break out your bowling skills and join ACTTS for a night of bowling! ACTTS will be at the Vista Entertainment Center at 7pm on Friday, January 15. Bowling is \$4.75 per game or \$24 an hour; shoe rentals are \$4.50. Vista Entertainment Center is located at 435 West Vista Way. Lanes will be reserved! Looking forward to seeing you there. For more information, contact acts@stmoside.org.

Next Meeting
Monday, January 18, 7:00pm

2010 Goals, Faith,
and You

For more information:
 Ron or Louise
 760-758-4100 x153
ronb@stmoside.org

Save This Date for a Tour of the
Huntington Library and Gardens:
Thursday, February 25!

St. Thomas More Spirited Seniors is sponsoring a bus tour to the Huntington Library and Gardens and hope you can join us for a day of fun and education. Watch for the flyer next week with complete information. Please save this date, Thursday, February 25, and plan to join us. For more information or questions, call Rita Shepard at 760-598-1123 or Lee Coccaro at 760-598-6248.

Women's Guild News

A big HATS OFF!! to Betty Dorsa, chair of the Christmas raffle, which brought in \$2800 for our building fund. Many thanks to Betty and to all who contributed.

CHINESE AUCTION!! Have you searched high and low and gathered up unused, unwanted things for our annual auction on Monday, January 11? Don't miss out on the fun. We begin at 11:00am with viewing and taking chances on items, to be followed by a catered Chinese luncheon. Call Valerie, 630-1703, or Mary Coxon 599-8760 to sign up, or see us after Mass.

GAME DAY--Saturday, January 23 at 11. This is a really fun day open to all members and friends of St. Thomas More, including children and grandchildren. Cost is \$10. The day will include drinks, hors d'oeuvres, lunch, and games and cards of all types. Bring your own, or pick up one of ours. We have plenty of cards and games available, and it is not necessary to have a foursome, as there are always people ready to form groups. We also have an abundance of door prizes and beautiful opportunity baskets for you to take chances on. So come and join the fun. Sign up after all masses for the next two weeks, or call Jen Frost 858-692-7439, or Sally Fay 760-727-1766.

Heartnotes

The first Adult CPR/AED class of 2010 will take place on Saturday, January 16, 8:30am-1:00pm, on the lower level of the Parish Center.

CPR is one of the most important skills for any adult or teenager to acquire and it's not rocket science. Get the confidence and the ability to respond when a loved one has a medical emergency.

The cost is \$27 per person and the American Red Cross certification is valid for one year.

If you have any questions about the St. Thomas More CPR program, contact medical director Dr. Phil Goscienski at drphilg@cox.net 760-732-1414.

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.

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.



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.

Catholic Widows and Widowers of North County

We usually meet the second and fourth Sundays of each month. Sunday, January 10, is our general meeting and potluck at 2:00pm in Oceanside; Sunday, January 24, we celebrate Mass here at 10:30am, followed by brunch at Shadowridge Country Club. Our active calendar of events in January includes dining, dancing, concerts, golf, and several happy hours. New members are always welcome to come check us out! For further information, please see the bulletin board on the lower level or contact Jackie Cohen at 760-726-4343 or Carol Kope at 760-758-4100.

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.

JustFaith Program SAVE THE DATE!

On Saturday, February 20, St. Thomas More will be hosting an Introductory Workshop on *JustFaith*, a process that will help us embark on a spiritual journey into the compassion of Christ. The speaker, Jack Jezreel, will help us "embrace the Gospel in ways that respond to the world's needs by working for justice that liberates, restores and heals."

Mark your calendars for February 20, 8:30am-12:00noon. Other parishes in the diocese are also being invited.

For more information: www.justfaith.org or Sr. Maureen at 760-758-4100 x131. Watch for a flyer in the Sunday bulletin with more details in the next few weeks.

Liturgy & Music

Worship God

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

HERE IS THE PLACE...NOW IS THE TIME!



You shopped!

Face it...we all know that everyone visits lots of churches before choosing one that suits them.

You found us!

After diligently searching for that "perfect" parish to attend every Sunday, you found this imperfect place, the Church of St. Thomas More, that is nearly perfect for all your church-going needs.

You joined us!

You decided to make a formal commitment to the mission and ministry of St. Thomas More—time, talent, and treasure—joining this faith community in its efforts to "worship God, teach and live the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and serve God's people in word and deed."

What now?

If you haven't joined one of the many groups that live the mission and ministry at St. Thomas More, or if you have and are looking for more to do, then I invite you to consider joining the music ministry.

This is a perfect time of year to start because we have finished the liturgical seasons of Advent and Christmas and we have not yet begun to practice the music for the rest of the choir year.

There are opportunities for singers and instrumentalists, children and adults, highly experienced and novice or completely untrained. On the right of this page is a listing of the choirs and ensembles that

comprise this faith community's music makers.

In addition to the ongoing opportunities to sing during liturgies, there are a number of special events coming up in the next year.

The Praise Teams will be leading the music at the Confirmation Mass in May when Bishop Brom joins us to celebrate this sacrament.

The children will be back on the choir risers for Easter with the seasonal Children's Easter Choir which begins rehearsals in March.

The Parish will be celebrating its 25th anniversary on October 17. The bishop will be here, and you know we are going to have special music from all the musicians to commemorate the event.

I encourage you to contact me (top of this page) if you are interested.

Whether you are novice or expert—most comfortable singing in the shower or on stage, playing a guitar in the garage or at the coffeehouse—or somewhere in between, there are opportunities for you to join in the music-making for the glory of God at St. Thomas More.

You have made the choice to join this faith community. You are making a financial gift in the collection basket. Now, I invite you to join the rest of us who share our time and talent with the assembly making a joyful noise to the Lord.

—Douglas



MAKING A JOYFUL NOISE!

Youth Praise Team

Instrumentalists and singers from the Parish's youth.

Tuesdays at 7:00pm.

Adult Praise Team

This music team of singers and instrumentalists is made up of more "seasoned" musicians.

Tuesdays at 7:00pm.

Sanctuary Choir

This is the BIG choir, open to everyone, grade 7 and up. This choir sings music from the entire choral spectrum: chant, classic church music, and songs by today's best composers.

Thursdays at 7:00pm.

Handbell Choir

No singing required!

Wednesdays at 6:30pm.

Children's Choir

Open to children in grades 2-8, the children's choir sings at Christmas and Easter liturgies.

Watch the bulletin for details.

Paschal Choir

This group sings during Funeral Masses and Memorial Services.

Upcoming Music

JANUARY 16/17
Second Sunday
in Ordinary
Time

5:00pm Mass

Cantor

8:30am Mass

Cantor

10:30am Mass

Cantor

LITURGICAL MINISTERS WORKSHOP

Required for NEW Eucharistic Ministers and Readers

Saturday, January 30 ♦ 9:00am - 3:30pm

Registration form at www.stmoside.org/emhc.htm

Faith Formation

Teach and Live the Gospel

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

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

Check your Annual Plan for this week's lesson

So Now What?

The Christmas decorations are finally packed away, and Ordinary Time can seem so "ordinary". . . how do we stay spiritually challenged? The message of the Christmas Season called us to live the *whole* Paschal Mystery: Christ's birth, death AND resurrection . . . each part giving meaning to the other.

The following story from Max Lucado gives practical insight for living the Paschal Mystery in our daily lives:

Once there was a man whose life was one of misery. The days were cloudy, and the nights were long. Henry didn't want to be unhappy, but he was. With the passing of the years, his life had changed. His children were grown. The neighborhood was different. The city seemed harsher.

He was unhappy. He decided to ask his minister what was wrong.

"Am I unhappy for some sin I have committed?"

"Yes," the wise pastor replied. "You have sinned."

"And what might that sin be?"

"Ignorance," came the reply. "The sin of ignorance. One of your neighbors is the Messiah in disguise, and you have not seen him."

The old man left the office stunned. "The Messiah is one of my neighbors?" He began to think whom it might be.

Tom the butcher? No, he's too lazy. Mary, my cousin down the street? No, too much pride. Aaron the paperboy? No, too indulgent. The man was confounded. Every person he knew had defects. But one was the Messiah. He began to look for Him.

He began to notice things he hadn't seen. The grocer often carried the sacks to the cars of older ladies. *Maybe he is the Messiah.* The officer at the corner always had a smile for the kids. *Could it be?* And the young couple who'd moved next door. *How kind they are to their cat. Maybe one of them. . . .*

With time he saw things in people he'd never seen. And with time his outlook on life began to change. The bounce returned to his step. His eyes took on a friendly sparkle. When others spoke he listened. After all, he might be listening to the Messiah. When anyone asked for help, he responded; after all this might be the Messiah needing assistance.

The change of attitude was so significant that someone asked him why he was so happy. "I don't know," he answered. "All I know is that things changed when I started looking for God."

Now, that's curious. The old man saw Jesus because he didn't know what he looked like. The people in Jesus' day missed him because they thought they did.

How are things looking in your neighborhood?

Teen Mini-Course—Last Call!

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

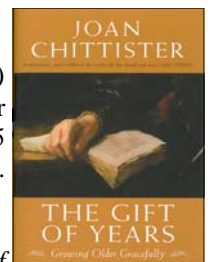
January 10, 24, and 31
6:30-8:30pm

Confirmation Mini Course continues
January 10 and 31

Fr. Mike's Bookies

The Gift of Years (Growing Older 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 an amazing compendium of wisdom not only for people facing aging or providing support, but for everyone who wants to live a spiritually centered and balanced life.



Michael Lerner

PBJ Update

Food for children at Catholic Charities in Vista

2010 GOAL:	365 jars
Collected to date:	68 jars

Information for Growth

9—Answer

A consequence of Christian moral conversion is

- B) being more concerned for others than oneself.
(CCC 1435)



10—Question

On Pentecost Sunday, Christians celebrate

- A) the Holy Spirit coming to the disciples.
B) Jesus returning to Heaven.
C) Jesus dying on the cross.
D) the baptism of Jesus.



Stewardship & Development

Serve God's People

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

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP Answering Our Baptismal Call

On this feast of the Baptism of our Lord, we are reminded that we, who are baptized in Christ must follow His example and use our time and resources in the service of God and neighbor.

Jesus, whom God called “my beloved Son,” is also the “servant” of whom Isaiah speaks in the first reading. Our Lord was sent in our human likeness and set a perfect example for us to follow.

The following New Year’s Prayer is powerful, and resounds with the reminder of the life Jesus lived to save us from our sins. God loves us unconditionally and desires for us to fully live the gift of life bestowed upon us. This may not be “ship we signed up for” but life has meaning beyond what we often see at the time.

- ♥ Not by shielding you from all sorrows and pain,
But by strengthening you to bear it, as it comes;
- ♥ Not by making your path easy,
But by making you sturdy to travel any path;
- ♥ Not by taking hardships from you,
But by taking fear from your heart;
- ♥ Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,
But by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows;
- ♥ Not by making your life always pleasant,
But by showing you when people and their causes need you most, and by making you anxious to be there to help.

In his book, “David: Man of Passion and Destiny,” Charles Swindoll passes along some earthbound wisdom.

When God says “no” it is not necessarily discipline or rejection. It may simply be redirection. You have pursued His will; you have wanted to do His will. You threw that piece of wood on the fire, and you saw your selfish desires go up in smoke.

With all good intentions you said, “By God’s grace I am going to pursue this.” And here you are, thirty, forty or maybe only five years later, and it has not worked out . . .

The thing we have to do in our walk with God is listen carefully from day to day. Not just go back to some decision and say, “That is it forever, regardless.”

We need to look at it each day, keep it fresh, keep the fire hot, keep it on the back burner, saying, “Lord, is this Your will? Is this Your plan? If it is not, make me sensitive to it. Maybe you are redirecting my life.”

God has all kinds of creative ways to use us ~ ways we can’t even imagine and certainly can’t see up there around the next bend in the road. We need to always be *sensitive and open* to God’s plan.

*Worship lifts us out of ourselves
and reminds us of who God is.*

— S. Yates

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: January 2/3, 2010

Number of Registered Households:		1,011
Offertory*	\$	15,633.92
Offertory (Loose Collection)		1,183.50
Children's envelopes		1.50
Total	\$	16,818.92

* 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.)

As is our custom, the Christmas collection figures will be reported in mid-January at the end of the Christmas Season.

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 the remaining appearances in 2010—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.

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

Women's Weekend Retreat at Mission San Luis Rey: Change, Changes, and Changing—Experiences Toward God—Take some time to join us and other women for on January 29-31 at Mission San Luis Rey Retreat Center in Oceanside. Let's begin (or continue) our journeys together, with encouragement, surrounded by a community of women supportive of each other's journey toward God--women who believe, act and experience the transcendent in everyday life. Father Philip Garcia, OFM and Emmalyn Moreno will lead retreat. This retreat begins Friday with dinner at 6:00 pm and ends with lunch on Sunday. For additional information or to register, please call 760-757-3659.

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.

Foster and Affirm Vocations to Priesthood and Religious Life in Carlsbad—Join the Serra Club of San Diego North Coast at 8:00am Mass at St. Patrick Church in Carlsbad followed by a breakfast meeting on the second Saturday and fourth Tuesday of each month. For more information, call 760-729-9528.

Little Rock Bible Studies

Israel's Story—Part One

Little Rock Scripture Study group begins the study of the book of Israel's Story—Part One, on Wednesday, February 10, at 9:00am or Thursday, February 11, at 7:00pm for seven sessions. This book explores Old Testament history, theology, and stories from the creation accounts of Genesis to the fall of the Northern Kingdom and its prophets. These are the lessons that the study will be covering:

1. First Things First
2. Out of Egypt
3. Into the Land
4. Long Live the King
5. A Kingdom Divided
6. Thus Says the Lord

Hope to see you there! For more information, contact Masako Streling at 760-295-2594 or mstr0619@cox.net.



1450 SOUTH MELROSE DRIVE · OCEANSIDE, CA 92056 · PHONE: 760-758-4100 · FAX: 760-758-4165

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 & EvangelizationRory 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

VocationsDeacon Tom & Patt Goeltz 760-758-4100 x130

RCIA/AdultsMario Diaz 760-758-7870

RCIA/Children..... Jeanette Marriott 760-434-1818

LiturgyKathy Arciero 760-231-1022

Altar Linen CareAnna 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 AdultsJen 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 ColumbusJames Baker 760-630-2471
 LibraryChris 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 MinistriesDick & Charlene Belprez 760-295-1431

Blood DriveLinda Dicus 760-726-5081
 Bereavement Follow-up SupportLinda 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 LifeJane 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 MinistryRita 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 SupportHenny 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/TithingPaul Ibbetson 760-734-1051

Scrip Sales Theresa Goeltz 760-453-2876

Stewardship Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120

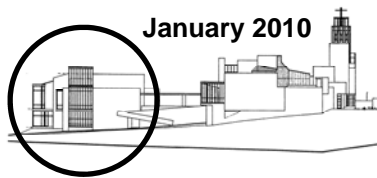
Vehicle Donations..... Vlad Bolsakov 760-758-4100 x100

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

Patronize Our Advertisers

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



Church of St. Thomas More
1450 South Melrose Drive • Oceanside, CA 92056
760-758-4100 • 760 758-4165 fax
parishoffice@stmoside.org • www.stmoside.org

“Did You Know?”
**Your monthly opportunity to help with
the Operating Budget.**
We must be able to maintain
what we have in order to
“Journey Into The Future . . . Together”
and build our church.

Please make checks payable to:
Church of St. Thomas More
with memo “Operating Budget.”

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Envelopes may be returned any time during the month via
the weekend collection, the Parish Office, or the mail.

Parish ID#: _____

Amount Enclosed: **\$** _____

SHARE THIS COPY WITH A FRIEND!

JOIN US *for an* EVENT WHERE
GIVING WON'T JUST FEEL GOOD,
IT'LL TASTE GOOD.

St. Thomas More Catholic Church

We're having a fundraiser at California Pizza Kitchen. Just bring in this flyer on the date listed below, present it to your server when ordering, and 20% of your check will be donated to our organization.



Lunch

Dinner

Wednesday, January 13th, 2009
California Pizza Kitchen Vista
307 Vista Village Dr.
760.631.5601

Eligible groups include non-profit schools and 501c3 charitable organizations. Donation amount excludes proceeds from tax, gratuity, gift card and retail purchases. Valid for dine-in, take-out and curbside service. Not valid on delivery. Manager, please attach this flyer to the guest check. Event proceeds void if flyers are distributed in or near the restaurant.

Must Bring In Flyer

JOIN US *for an* EVENT WHERE
GIVING WON'T JUST FEEL GOOD,
IT'LL TASTE GOOD.

St. Thomas More Catholic Church

We're having a fundraiser at California Pizza Kitchen. Just bring in this flyer on the date listed below, present it to your server when ordering, and 20% of your check will be donated to our organization.



Lunch

Dinner

Lunch
or
Dinner

Wednesday, January 13th, 2009
California Pizza Kitchen Vista
307 Vista Village Dr.
760.631.5601

Eligible groups include non-profit schools and 501c3 charitable organizations. Donation amount excludes proceeds from tax, gratuity, gift card and retail purchases. Valid for dine-in, take-out and curbside service. Not valid on delivery. Manager, please attach this flyer to the guest check. Event proceeds void if flyers are distributed in or near the restaurant.

Must Bring In Flyer