

Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor Deacon Thomas A. Goeltz

1450 South Melrose Drive, Oceanside, CA 92056 760-758-4100 • 760-758-4165 fax

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30am-12:00noon and 12:30-4:00pm

parishoffice@stmoside.org • www.stmoside.org

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StThomasMoreRCC



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

February 12, 2012 • Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Pastor's Column

"Nothing Less Than All of You Is What I Want"

On Tuesday, January 31, 2012, I celebrated the 37th anniversary of my Ordination to the Priesthood. I give thanks to God for the gift of my vocation and God's willingness to allow me to share in the Priesthood of Jesus Christ. I pray for continued strength as I head into "the home stretch."

I am so grateful for the Church of St. Thomas More, this Community of Faith that I have the privilege and joy to pastor.

A Pastor needs to be fed, just as the flock needs to be fed. Please know that I am being fed by you, the Church of St. Thomas More! Your commitment, your desire, and your efforts to live as Disciples of Jesus, and to witness to God's Kingdom in this time



and this place mean much to me. You feed me and you strengthen my commitment to be faithful to my promises and vows. Always remember that we need each other. You need a pastor, and, just as importantly, a pastor needs his community.

As I celebrate 37 years of ministry, two phrases come to mind: "permanent commitment" and "humor."

Firstly, the most important charism that is needed for our time is, I believe, "permanent commitment." There are many people in our world today who believe that people cannot make a commitment that

(Continued on page 2)

Did You Know?

We ended our last fiscal year (FY) on 06/30/2011. Thanks to your contributions to our "Did You Know Campaign?" we ended the fiscal year in the black!

But we did not resolve the \$28,000 deficit which we incurred in FY 2009-2010, and which we carried over into FY 2010-2011.

We are now in FY 2011-2012. Your gifts to the "Did You Know Campaign?" make an important difference not only to keep us "in the black," but help us to resolve the deficit we have been carrying from FY 2009-2010.





Our Mission is to: worship God,

In addition to Mass, Reconciliation, and Eucharistic Adoration

(see page 1 for schedules), there are opportunities to participate in liturgical and music ministries.

For further information, contact Douglas Lynn,
Director of Liturgy and Music,
at 760-758-410 x140 or douglasl@stmoside.org

Matrimony (9 months advance notice required),
communion for the sick/homebound, and anointing
are available by request

For further information, contact the Parish Office at 760-758-4100 x100 or parishoffice@stmoside.org.

teach and live the Gospel of Jesus Christ,

There are programs for faith development and enrichment for all ages, including preparation for receiving the sacraments. *For further information, contact Kathleen Bell,*

Director of Faith Formation, at 760-758-4100 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 (see page 10).

For further information, contact Chris Smith,

Director of Stewardship and Development,

at 760-758-4100 x120 or chriss@stmoside.org.

See page 10 or www.stmoside.org for more details.

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? *For information, call Kathleen Bell at 760-758-4100 x110.*

STM 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 nicked up.

Call us, and we'll have it picked up.

You get the tax deduction!

All we need is clear title. Non-operational is OK!

Since 2006 we have netted over \$24,800 from this program. Thank you donors!









For more information, contact the Parish Office: 760-758-4100 x100 or parishoffice@stmoside.org

Pastor's Column (continued from page 1)

lasts "until death." All of us, married, vowed religious, and ordained are called to give to this generation the gift of "permanent commitment."

Our young people, especially, need to see that people can make commitments that last a lifetime. That is what I have chosen to do. No matter what the problem or difficulty, I choose to believe that, with the help of God, it can be worked out.

On January 31, 1975 in Mt.Clemens, Michigan, Bishop Thomas Gumbleton, the Auxiliary Bishop of Detroit, ordained me. I will not walk away from this commitment because I believe that this generation needs to see the charism of permanence. People can say "yes" and that "yes" can last until death.

Secondly, what has "saved" me in my ordained ministry over and over again is "humor," the ability to laugh at myself and to laugh, not at others, but with others. Our very existence is Mystery. Continually we face the unknown, and as we face the joy, the turmoil, and the tragedy of life, humor is a vital gift that sees us through.

I give thanks to God that, in my 37 years of ministry, the gift of humor has found its way into my life and ministry. So much of life is unknown, and, at times, may seem meaningless and even absurd! So, in the face of "not knowing" and consciously "living the questions," I choose to laugh, regale, and enjoy the Mystery, and to be in are of what life places before us, knowing that God walks with us through it all.

These are the words of my Ordination Prayer Card. I pray this prayer often. Please pray it with your household when the opportunity arises:

Who is that Figure walking by the waters, along the shore white, shining, and terrible? He looks at me with Knowing eyes that hurt. Glowing, blazing, probing, loving Eyes, dreadful, asking Eyes.
They say straightforward
Nothing less than all of you is what I want.

I feel that I am giving more of myself to the Lord today than I did 37 years ago, but I still have a long way to go before I am able to give the Lord everything. I encourage you to join me on the journey.

Let us pray that all of us, as Disciples of the Lord Jesus, each day, give a bit more of ourselves to Him until the transformation is total and complete!

Eucharistic Adoration



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

Exposition of the Eucharist on First Fridays. Next date: Friday, March 2.

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

Readings for the Week Ahead

Sunday Year B: Weekday Year II Readings online at www.usccb.org.

Sunday, February 12 (77) Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Leviticus 13:1-2,44-46 Psalm 32:1-2,5,11 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1

Mark 1:40-45

Monday, February 13 (335)

James 1:1-11

Psalm 119:67,68,71,72,75,76

Mark 8:11-13

Tuesday, February 14 (336)

Cyril, monk, and Methodius, bishop James 1:12-18

Psalm 94:12-15,18-19

Mark 8:14-21

Wednesday, February 15 (337)

James 1:19-27 Psalm 15:2-5 Mark 8:22-26

Thursday, February 16 (338)

James 2:1-9 Psalm 34:2-7 Mark 8:27-33

Friday, February 17 (339)

James 2:14-24,26 Psalm 112:1-6 Mark 8:34-9:1

Saturday, February 18 (340)

James 3:1-10 Psalm 12:2-5,7-8 Mark 9:2-13

Sunday, February 19 (80)

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Isaiah 43:18-19,21-22,24b-25

Psalm 41:2-5,13-14 2 Corinthians 1:18-22

Mark 2:1-12.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 11, 5:00pm Terence Flanagan &

Sunday, February 12, 8:30am Annie Gavin 🕆 Peter Gavin T

Sunday, February 12, 10:30am Betty Such &

Tuesday, February 14, 8:15am William Vlachos &

Wednesday, February 15, 8:15am

Peter Ashton & Thursday, February 16, 8:15am

Barbara Earwicker & Friday, February 17, 8:15am

Donald Kope & Saturday, February 18, 5:00pm Mervin & Tommy Bensmiller ❖

Sunday, February 19, 8:30am Pete Depietro

Sunday, February 19, 10:30am Bob Hall &

Praver List (Call 760-758-4100 x102 to add a name for four weeks.)

Mary Alexander Laura Allenfort Lucia Ambriz Mary Balli Alexandra Banwell Jose Luis Barbosa Patricia Barbour Colleen Bechtold Clarice Bednarz John Bennici Regina Bentz Roseanne Berg
George "Whitey" Betus
Mary Betz
Betty Jean Bielich The Bock & Pal Families Allan Boehne Lvnda Bradv Roy Bristol The Bronzan Family Monica Broussard Janet Brown The Brown Family Anita Buerger Bridget Buford Shelby Campbell Brianne Campos Claudia Caplinger Paul Cassidy Lolly Cervantes Donna Cestari Marjorie Chapin Pat Christopherson Dick Clarke Dolly Cole Carl Coleman James Coleman Elizabeth Cox Karen Flaharty Daley Beverly de Gelder Ryan Devlin The Diaz Family Judith DiMatteo Dave Dossman John Drazkowski, Jr. Virginia Dunbar Sharon Evans The Falkenstein Family Chuck Fay The Fiore Family Ryan Flum Matthew Foster Kathryn Franklin Joe Freire Brian Frink Carmen Garcia Lois Garth The David Gonzales Family Rick Gonzalez Eileen Gough Rosemary Haeffelin Susan Hallahan Cyndy Hamasaki The Harker Family Elizabeth Harrison The Heath Family

Stephnie Herman Lilian Hills Nan Hollbick Susan Hori Iolanda Iacobelli Sue Johnston Eileen Jones Paul Kennedy Paul Kennedy Peggy Kiernan Debbie Kinney Dewey Kolbo Helen Kuhn Lillian Lachance The Lamelin Family

Christopher & Roland Lawrence Brandon LeBlanc Evelyn Levy Ashley Load Cassandra Loretto Lauren Loretto James MacArthur Joaquin Maldonado Nancy Marley Mickie Marrone

Chandler May

The Mazzarella Family The McXiney
The McNabb Family
Bob McWilliams
Joyce Meehan
Kalei Mendiola Phyllis Minaya June Mitchell The Moon Family Nancy Moore Conrad Murphy Margie Myers Domenica Nocida Helen O'Connell Heidi Olson Juanita Matamala Pacheco Bernadette Padovan Art Palle Alice Paolina

Helen Pingtella Gloria & Douglas Price-Williams

The Rhee Family Clinton Ritchie Rita Ritchie Joanne Robinson Alfred Robles Maria Rogers Dorothy Rouse The Russo Family Kimberly Schlunt

Linda Schmidt
Linda Schmidt
The Douglas E. Schulte Family
Pete Serle & Family
The Shaw & Nocida Families

Bob, Joan, & Julie Shea Elizabeth Shirzad Richard Sikora Jeanne Sisson Jacque Smid

Mike Snyder Nick Soltau Fred & Gilda Spiegl Darek, Vanessa, & Elba Spizewski

Dorothy Staehr Ted Stanislawski Pete Sullivan David Sweet Dorothy Thomas Jim Thompson, Sr.

Sarah Tillinghast Stephen Toth, Jr. John Treat Mary Tysko & Family Laurie Updyke Ethel Vanderhagen Kae Vanpola The Velasco Family Silvana Vettese

The Visciglio Family Bob Vita Vanessa Vitiello Barbara Voelpel Ashley Wandell Kevin Watson-Graff John Whitton Patricia Zavala

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. 1st Lt. Jeffrey Bauer, USMC PFC John Brandone Corp. Willie Deel Chaplain Van Dinh Lance Corp. Brandon Doyle, USMC Grant Fischer MSGT Steve Gallegos, USMC Sgt. Alex Garcia FCCM Adam Gregory, USN Staff Sgt. Travis M. Meyers, USAF Pvt. 2 Jess Phillips, US Army Sr. Airman Robert Spear, USAF Sgt. Charles Watts, USMC

Calendar Highlights

More details at www.stmoside.org. Schedule and Calendar

The Week Ahead

Liturgy of the Word for Feb 12 Children at 8:30am Mass RE.A.CH Classes at church. Feb 12 including High School

The Month Ahead

Spirited Seniors Luncheon Feb 14 Feb 18 Women's Guild Fashion Show Liturgy of the Word for Feb 19 Children at 8:30am and 10:30am Masses Feb 19 New Member Reception Feb 20 President's Day Mass at 8:15am

Parish Office and Chapel Ash Wednesday

Masses at 8:15am, 12:00pm, 5:30pm, and

7:30pm

Soup Supper 5:30-7:30pm K of C Fish Dinner Feb 24

Stations of the Cross Feb 24 Feb 25 Men's Prayer Breakfast

RE.A.CH Classes at church Feb 26

The Year Ahead

Feb 22

K of C Fish Dinner Mar 2 Mar 2 Stations of the Cross Mar 11 Rescheduled

Towers of Faith Reception Day of Recollection for Mar 22

Men and Women Women's Guild Bake Sale Mar 24-25

April 8 Easter Sunday

Women's Guild Game Day April 21 May 20 Confirmation at 10:30am

Mass

13th Annual Golf Classic June 1 July 16-20 Vacation Bible Camp

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.

February 13 Sr. Ampelia Acuna, RJM February 14 Sr. Marie Carmen Aguilar, UCSC February 15 Sr. Luz Alicia Alvarez, SJS February 16 Sr. Elizabeth of the Trinity Amabile, MC February 17 Sr. Mary Amador, RJM

February 18

Sr. Adela Amoroso-Medrano, OLVM

February 19 Sr. Dolores Anchondo, CSJ

Welcome to Newly Registered Parishioners

Walter & Brenda Cobian Cindy Stoeckel Henry & Maria Vasquez & family

Congratulations to

Boo & Bob Falconer

who celebrate their 68th wedding anniversary February 9

Consuelo & Darwin Mehlbrech

who celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary February 11 May God continue to bless your marriage, and may you be an inspiration to other married couples.

Flower Donations

The Altar Flowers for this weekend were given by **John Walsh** in memory of his wife, Maria Del Refugio Walsh.



In Memoriam



Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Carol Bock, who died on January 20. Her Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, March 1, at 3:00pm at St. Thomas More. Please keep her sister, Parishioner Diane Pal, and her family in your prayers.

Eileen McNabb, who died on February 3. Her Memorial Mass will be celebrated on Friday, February 24, at 11:00am at St. Thomas More. Please keep her family in your prayers.

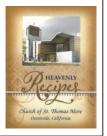
Paola Campos, who died on February 3. Her funeral arrangements are pending. Please keep her father, Charlie Moon, and her family in your prayers.

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

Parish Cookbook

Be sure to pick up one of our Parish cookbooks. They make great birthday and shower gifts.

Available in the Parish Office during the week. \$15 each, \$15 for a CD version or \$25 for the pair.



STM \$crip News

TRY US NOW! FREE Fundraising.

A percentage of each gift card is returned to the Parish for the Building Fund. Check the Scrip list (at the Scrip table after Masses or on the website) to find out how much each card earns.

Thanks to all who support our Parish Building Fund by purchasing Scrip gift cards!

Remember, Scrip is available for purchase FOUR ways!

- 1. Monday-Friday during business hours in the Parish Office
- 2. Online at *www.stmoside.org*, click on Contact Us, then click on Scrip
- 3. Email at scrip@stmoside.org
- 4. Phone at 760-758-4100 x150

Orders may be picked up after Mass on the weekend or at the Parish Office during the week.

Social Ministries/Outreach

Christmas Thank You's



North County Solutions for Change

Christmas was magical because of you. Smiles and looks of wonder were seen on the faces of our children all season long.

Sincerely, Chris & Tammy Megison

Catholic Charities

Dear Friends at St. Thomas More,

Thank you for your very generous donation of Christmas Stockings. Your stockings were included as gifts during the annual Catholic Charities Christmas Store. The Christmas Store provides clients who use our Food Resource Center an opportunity to select presents for their children.

Throughout the year these families come to us to get assistance with food, CalFresh (Food Stamp) applications, and education on community resources. The Christmas Store gives these families a chance to provide a special Christmas for their children who would otherwise go without this season.

With the help from your efforts and donation, we were able to provide gifts for more than 230 children. Your generosity is truly felt by all involved at the Christmas Store, whether they are Catholic Charities employees, volunteers, or clients.

Sincerely, Lisa Dumolt, Program Coordinator

P.S. I just had a mom from the Christmas Store stop by the pantry to thank me for the Christmas presents. She said her children were thrilled with all the gifts. One of her daughters (1 of 7) said she must have been really good this year because "It was the most socking stuffers she had ever received!!!" Thanks for all you do.

Casa de Amparo

Dear Friends,

On behalf of Casa de Amparo's Board of Directors, Casa Kids, and staff we would like to express our gratitude for your generous donation of holidays items. Without your support, we could not provide shelter, nutritious meals, education, counseling, and the therapeutic services that benefit families and children working toward breaking the cycle of abuse.

Sincerely, Sharon Dephenich, LCSW, Executive Director and Kathy Karpé, CFRE, Director of Development.

Birth Choice of San Marcos

Dear Wonderful Donors!

Thank you so much for all of your amazing donations to Birth Choice. So many new mothers will be thrilled. We are most thankful for all of you.

Sincerely, Jamie D., Counselor



Parish Events

Valentine's Luncheon

Remember the Spirited Seniors Luncheon on Tuesday, February 14 if you made a reservation. For more information, contact Judy Buoniconti at 760-758-5113.

Women's Guild News

Our Fashion Show has sold out! Thank you to all of you who have bought tickets and will be able to attend. I'm sure you will love the extravaganza of color along with all the fun to bid on your favorite opportunity basket and the chance to win a fabulous door prize. Our talented decorators have planned to provide us with a colorful tribute to Mardi Gras. The parade of fashion will give us the first look of spring clothing lines that everyone will enjoy.

Please also keep these dates on your calendar: March monthly meeting, March 12, a tribute to St. Patrick's Day; Day of Recollection on Thursday, March 22; and Game Day will be held on Saturday, April 14. Look for more information in the bulletin in the coming weeks. We will also have announcements at Mass on these activities. Our Spring Bake Sale will be on March 24-25.

There is no joy that can compare with the joy of knowing you are in God's care.

—Vera Bayliss, President

New Member Reception—Sunday, February 19

We are welcoming all new Parishioners who have joined us since September, at a new member reception and luncheon on Sunday, February 19, after the 10:30am Mass in the lower level of the Parish Center. Invitations have been sent, and we look forward to meeting you. If you were unable to attend the last reception in September, please know that you are welcome to attend this one. Please RSVP to 760-758-4100 x154 or *parishoffice @stmoside.org* by February 13 so that we may adequately prepare as your hosts. For further information, contact Valerie Thompson at 760-630-1703 or *valgene2@cox.net*.

Men's Prayer Breakfast—Saturday, February 25

Men, Please join us for the "Men's Prayer Breakfast" Saturday, February 25 from 8:00-10:30am. The featured speaker will be John Vignol who will share his vast knowledge of the scriptures and kick start us into the season of Lent. For more information, contact John Fredette at 760-630-1946 or mensfellowship@stmoside.org.

Knights of Columbus Fish Dinners

Every Friday during Lent, 5:30-7:00pm, starting February 24. Watch for details in upcoming bulletins!

ACTTS

Active Catholics in their Twenties and Thirties who Socialize

This Parish group partners with the North County Young Adults group and the Young Adult Ministry of the Diocese of San Diego, both of which have an ongoing calendar of events. To find out more, contact one of the following:

actts@stmoside.org northcounty.youngadults@gmail.com www.yamsd.org

2012 Phase 2.1 "... A Time to Build!"

Response Statistics as of February 7

of Families
Phase 2.1 Responding

Total Responses \$300,746 414

Still Needed \$199,254 616

Total Goal \$500,000 1,030

Total Collected \$75,048



- † Phase 2.1 brochures and donation envelopes were mailed on January 6 to all registered households. The goal is to make up for our shortfall of \$500,000 in Phase II.
- † 2012 Phase 2.1 "... A Time to Build!" is a one-year campaign, so please prayerfully consider your 2012 commitment and return your envelope to us as soon as possible. Envelopes are available in the Parish Office and on the Parish information table after all Masses.
- † The success of Phase 2.1 will be helpful to us before we enter our "mortgage phase."
- † We are still accepting family stones at the information table and in the Parish Office. These will go into the foundation of our church when it is built.
- † Thanks to all who have already responded to Phase 2.1!

www.stmoside.org; click on Our New Church. Chris Smith, Director of Stewardship and Development 760-758-4100 x120 or chriss@stmoside.org

Catholic Widows and Widowers of North County

On the fourth Sunday of each month (February 26) CWWNC gathers for Mass at various North County Parishes (St. James in Solana Beach) followed by lunch (in Del Mar). On the second Sunday of each month we hold a general meeting and potluck at 2:00pm (March 11 in Rancho Bernardo). Please RSVP to Carol Kope at 760-726-0533 or Gerri Wilmott at 760-758-9949. See the bulletin board on the lower level of the Parish Center for our monthly newsletter of activities—RSVPs are recommended.

Liturgy & Music



Douglas Lynn Director of Liturgy and Music douglasl@stmoside.org; 760-758-4100 x140

MAKING THE CASE FOR VALENTINE

Next Tuesday, February 14, the Church celebrates the Memorial of Saints Cyril and Methodius, authors of many Slavic liturgical texts and brothers known as the "Apostles to the Slavs" who served as the "spiritual bridge between Eastern and Western traditions" (Pope John Paul II). They are the patrons of the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and all of Europe.

So what happened to Valentine?

Officially, the Saint Valentine who is celebrated on February 14 remains in the Catholic Church's official list of saints (the Roman Martyrology), but there is a scarcity of information about him. As a consequence, his

commemoration was removed from the General Calendar for universal liturgical veneration when it was revised in 1969.

On a less official front, St. Valentine's Day is traditionally a day on which lovers express their love for each other by presenting flowers, offering confectionery, and sending greeting cards (known "valentines"). The day first became associated with romantic love in the circle of Geoffrey Chaucer (c.1343-1400) in the High Middle Ages, when the tradition of courtly love flourished.

At this Parish, we seem to celebrate love all the time. Hardly a week goes by when we aren't praying for "those who celebrate life and love within the Sacrament of Marriage." This week, for example, Bob and Boo Falconer celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary on February 9, and Darwin and Consuelo Mehlbrech celebrated their 25th on February 11.

On this second Sunday of February, we also celebrate World Marriage Day, an annual event sponsored by Worldwide Marriage Encounter (the largest Catholic pro-marriage and family movement in the world). It honors and affirms the vocation of husbands and wives and the positive impact of their dedicated example on our society, families, communities, Church, and nation. At all the Masses this weekend, we offer this prayer:

> Let us pray for all married couples, that they may continue to depend on Jesus for the strength, guidance, patience, and perseverance needed to be faithful and joyfilled in their commitment to one another.

Did you notice the key word in the description of World Marriage Day above? "It honors and affirms the vocation of husbands and wives..." Sometimes, in the ongoing serious concern about the vocations of priests, deacons, and religious women and men (National Vocation Awareness Week was January 9-14, 2012), we forget about another vocation. Some words from the Catechism:



The vocation to marriage is written in the very nature of man and woman as they came from the hand of the Creator (§1603).

God who created man out of love also calls him to love—the fundamental and innate vocation of every human being. For man is created in the image and likeness of God who is himself love. Since God created him man and woman, their mutual love becomes an image of the absolute and unfailing love with which God loves man. It is good, very good, in the Creator's eyes (§1604).

Love is the fundamental and innate vocation of every human being. A powerful statement, and one worthy of celebration even if our patron has been downgraded on the official list.

Tuesday evening, my wife and I will be celebrating our vocation of almost ten years together with dinner out at one of our favorite, not too often visited restaurants, and a prayer to our vocation's patron saint.







Upcoming Music

FEBRUARY 19 7th Sunday in **Ordinary Time**

5:00pm Mass

Cantor & Congregation

8:30am Mass

Cantor & Congregation

10:30am Mass

Cantor & Congregation

Faith Formation



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



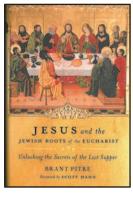
Today is a RE.A.CH day at Church Did you return your Progress Reports yet?

PBJ Update

(Food for children at the Emergency Crisis Center)

2012 GOAL: 365 jars Collected to date: 173 jars

YOUTH MINISTRY



Fr. Mike's Bookies

Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist

by Brant Pitre

Available NOW outside the Faith Formation Office for review and order. (\$15).

"With Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist, Brant Pitre puts the Eucharistic Christ into thrilling context by examining the realities of Jewish life in the first century.

Believers and nonbelievers alike will better appreciate the rich cultural, traditional, and scriptural wells from which Eucharistic understanding has been drawn and developed since Jesus of Nazareth first proclaimed, 'my flesh is real food, and my blood real drink.'"

> —Elizabeth Scalia, Managing editor at Patheos.com

Discussion will take place online.

You can add your comments about the book, ask questions, and respond to others.

Search for *Fr. Mike's Bookies* group on Facebook and join the group.

★ Steubenville
 San Diego

July 27-29, 2012

This is an amazing gathering of Catholic teens at the University of San Diego. Join over 4,000 teens and youth leaders for a weekend of fun, friendship, and faith.



There is great music, incredible speakers, time for prayer, and good food!

Don't miss one of the best weekends of your life!

Space is limited.

Get your reservation and deposit in by the February 27 deadline.

Forms available outside the Youth Office.

₩ IGNITE

Youth Group meets every Monday at 7:00pm! Join Rory Griffin and the LEAD team in deepening your relationships with one another and with Christ.

. . .concludes SUNDAY, 6:30-8:30pm

▼ STM Social Justice Confirmation Project

Thanks to all who supported our Parish teens by purchasing Fair Trade Chocolate!

This year's Confirmation group is partnering with Catholic Relief Services and Equal Exchange to bring the core values of our faith to bear on the choices we make as consumers—choices that have the power to lift our brothers and sisters out of poverty.

Back by popular demand, the STM Social Justice Confirmation Project will return to the Plaza Saturday, March 3, following the 5:00pm Mass and Sunday, March 4, following the 10:30am Mass, offering a variety of 3.5 oz. bars of Organic Fair Trade Chocolate for sale.

Make the world sweeter while you support economic justice, and encourag our Parish teens!



Stewardship & Development



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

A Basic Christian Stewardship Question: Are You Searching for God?

A priest told this story once to illustrate how important it is to identify what you truly value and then pursue it.

He was a teenager, he said, and he and his cousin were playing basketball in his cousin's driveway. Suddenly, the cousin realized he had lost a contact lens.

This was before the era of disposable contact lens. Back in those days, you bought one pair of hard contact lens and kept them until the next time you had an eye exam. They were costly, and people often found themselves on all fours searching for a missing contact.

So it was with the future priest and his cousin. They scoured the driveway and even looked in the surrounding grass. Alas, no contact lens was found, so they went inside to have a soda. In the house, they told the cousin's dad what had happened. He immediately went outside and started to search.

"It seemed that he was out there forever," said the priest. "He looked and looked and looked. And amazingly, he found that contact lens. Why did he find the missing lens and we didn't? Because my cousin and I were looking for a contact, but my uncle was looking for a hundred dollars."

To the priest, this humorous memory held a deeper truth: when we know the value of something, and desire it enough, we will be relentless in our search for it.

For Christian stewards, the search for God in our lives can never be a half-hearted, tepid response. It must be all or nothing. The search is a lifelong commitment.

Thomas Merton offered a basic principle of stewardship:

"A life is either all spiritual or not spiritual at all."

What is the stewardship question for me? Am I ready and willing to commit to the long search for God in my life?

—Parish Stewardship, February2012 (with permission)



The Lord will take delight in you ... He will sing and be joyful over you ...

—Zep. 3:17

TOWERS OF FAITH Future Support and Estate Planning Options

Towers of Faith is a movement that has arisen due to the visionary leadership and generosity of several of our Parishioners. We stress that this is not about the gift amount, but rather the love and thought behind the gift.

These individuals (several anonymous) have included STM in their estate planning. This helps to ensure their ongoing support and a legacy for our Parish. Towers of Faith is a valuable portion of our future support.



Examples of the various future planning vehicles are:

Designated Beneficiary Accounts,
Last Will and Testament, Living Trust, Life Insurance,
Stocks and Bonds, Real Estate, and Endowments.

Any Parishioners who have already included STM in their estate plans are *Towers of Faith* participants. If you are interested, please contact us. Your participation is most welcome and appreciated!

Chris Smith at 758-4100 x120, or chriss@stmoside.org.

Do two people in your family know the location of your will and/or living trust?

Collection for Week of February 4/5, 2012

Number of Registered Households	1,030
Offertory*	\$ 17,482.49
Offertory (Loose Collection)	1,816.00
Children's envelopes	 1.00
Total	\$ 19,299.49

* 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 and Information from the Larger Church

"Star-Spangled Salute" Luncheon in San Diego—Thursday, February 16, 10:45am, Hilton Mission Valley, 901 Camino Del Rio South, San Diego. Sponsored by the St. Vincent de Paul Village Ladies Guild and includes silent auction, luncheon, and live music/entertainment. \$45 per person. Proceeds to benefit the children at Fr. Joe's Villages. For reservations and information, contact Jane Hargrove by February 3 at 858-453-7016.

Sung Contemplative Rosary for Lent in Rancho Bernardo—Friday, February 24, 7:00pm, San Rafael Catholic Church, 17252 Bernardo Center Dr., San Diego. All are welcome to sing and pray along with members of the Parish Choir to better focus on the last days of Christ through visual means (beautiful icons), scriptural readings, and song. For more information, call 858-587-4314.

Elizabeth Hospice Volunteer Training in Escondido—Three Sundays: February 26, March 3 and 10, 8:30am-3:00pm, at The Elizabeth Hospice, 150 W. Crest St., Escondido. For more information, contact 760-737-2050.

News from St. Francis Church

St. Francis School is our Parish School. St. Thomas More Parishioners are extended the same benefits and rewards as a St. Francis Parishioner, including:

- Parishioner priority for enrollment at St. Francis School,
- Equal tuition rates,
- Financial aid opportunities, and
- Fundraising support.

For more information, contact the school at 760-945-7960.

Try us, you'll like us—Limited time offer!

New students can now try St. Francis Catholic School for free! Families with children in **grades Kindergarten through 8** are invited to register their child to attend St. Francis School!* At the end of nine weeks, if you like what you see, just pay the balance of the year's tuition in payments through the end of the school year. If you decide St. Francis School is not a good fit for your child, you are free to walk away without any obligation.

According to last year's national test scores (ITBS), St. Francis School students consistently performed one grade level higher than their current level, or higher.

Offer ends April 3, 2012. For more information and application, contact the school office at 760-630-7960 or visit www.sfs-vista.org.

*Registration fee required. Offer valid pending space availability, and applies to new families who register on November 1, 2011 or later. Other restrictions may apply.

Golf Tournament

Join St Francis of Assisi Catholic School for a most enjoyable and winning day of golf on Friday, March 16 at Twin Oaks Valley Golf Course in San Marocs. Registration available at *www.sfsvista.org*. Sponsorships and donations also welcome! For more information contact 760-630-7960.

Mainly Mozart Concert Series in Carlsbad—February 26, and March 18, 2:00pm at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 6628 Santa Isabel St., Carlsbad. Tickets and more information available at 619-239-0100 or *www.mainlymozart.org*.

Catholic Radio in San Diego—Includes Catholic Answers, interviews and discussions by Diocesan staff, youth programs, and more. Visit *www.catholicradioofsandiego.com* for details or tune in to AM 1000 Monday-Friday, 6:00-8:00pm.

Pregnancy Resource Center in San Marcos—Birth Choice of San Marcos, 760-744-1313 or *www.birthchoice.net.a*

Marriage & Family Life Corner

Focus—What is marriage? Are a man and a woman really essential to marriage? What about the child...and the role of mothers and fathers? Is it discriminatory to defend marriage as the union of one man and one woman? What impact does the redefinition of marriage have on religious liberty? The USCCB (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) has launched a new site titled "Marriage: Unique for a Reason." Find answers to these questions—and more—at: http://www.marriageuniqueforareason.org.

The Bishops' Letter on Marriage—Pornography: "Pornography, particularly internet pornography, is a serious threat to marital chastity and is gravely immoral. The Internet has made pornography readily accessible within the privacy of one's home. Using pornography can quickly become an addiction that erodes trust and intimacy between husband and wife and, in some cases, leads to the breakup of the common life of the spouses." To read the document go to https://www.usccb.org/loveandlife/.

Marriage Moments—(World Marriage Day) Renew your vows today or on Valentine's Day. "I _____, take you, _____, to be my wife/husband. I promise to be true to you in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health. I will love you and honor you all the days of my life."

Parenting Pointers—"Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven." (Mt 18.4) What childlike quality would you like to foster in yourself? Try it for a day.

Special Message—Real Marriage Tour: The Truth about Sex, Friendship, and Life Together. Marriage is a wonderful gift, but it takes work, growth in Christ, and patience to love the other more than ourselves. Single individuals will be ahead of the curve after hearing these truths that will transform their dating life and shape their future marriage. Join Pastor Mark and wife Grace Driscoll for an event that will encourage, enlighten, and equip you in your romantic relationship. Whether you are married or single, learn how Pastor Mark and Grace have navigated their marital journey through biblical teaching and humor. Tour dates: February 24 from 7:00pm-9:00pm and February 25 from 9:00am—12:00pm. For more information, Google: "real marriage tour san diego" or visit http://www.gotothehub.com/liveevents/real-marriage/.

For more information, visit *www.diocese-sdiego.org*/Ministries/Marriage & Family Life or call Jen Frost at 760-758-4100 x100.



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Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30-12:00noon and 12:30-4:00pm

Parish Contacts

Updated 2/12/2012

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

Besteval Oserali Oseralitas	C : 135' : 4 : D: 1 O C 1 D 700 207 1421	
Pastoral Council Committees	Social MinistriesDick & Charlene Belprez 760-295-1431 Blood DriveLinda Dicus 760-726-5081	
Faith Formation & EvangelizationRory Griffin 760-414-3939	Brother Benno's Collections Deacon Tom Goeltz 760-727-8442	
Religious Education (Adults)Wayne Zych 760-598-9244		
Small Church CommunitiesSondra Parks 760-598-1269	Brother Benno's Kitchen ServersGeorge Jones 760-940-9288	
Little Rock Bible Studies	Christmas Angel MinistryJohn & Marti Harper 760-724-1181	
Religious Education (Children) Kathleen Bell 760-758-4100 x110	Culture of LifeJane Kelleher 760-822-7041	
Liturgy of the Word for Children	CPR/AED ClassesPhil Goscienski 760-732-1414	
Sacramental Preparation	Disability FacilitationAnn Eriksson 760-599-7151	
High School Youth Ministry	Faith Works Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131	
Young Adult Ministry	Fraternity & Michaelle HouseDiantha Zschoche /60-685-0081	
Women's Minsitry/FellowshipDebbie Fredette 760-630-1946	Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice	
Men's FellowshipJohn Fredette 760-630-1946		
Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs Regina Aulisio 760-295-5530	Jail MinistryRita McCarthy 760-758-4100 x100	
Vocations	JustFaith	
RCIA Kathleen Bell 760-758-4100 x110		
LiturgyKathy Arciero 760-231-1022	More's Workers	
Altar Linen CareAnna Meyers 760-727-4998	North County Solutions for Change (NCSC)	
Art & Environment Kathy Arciero 760-231-1022		
Bereavement FacilitatorSr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131	Prayer Request Line	
Eucharistic Adoration	Norma Flanagan 760-630-0180 Project Linus Mary Coven 760 500 8760	
Interior Design Team Pat & Phil Goscienski 760-732-1414	Project Linus	
Liturgical MinistriesDouglas Lynn 760-758-4100 x140	St. Bonaventure Mission	
Liturgical MusicDouglas Lynn 760-758-4100 x140	Office Support	
Sick & Homebound (Eucharist)Jean McCloskey 760-643-2363	General Support	
Marriage & Family Life Jen Frost 858-692-7438	Chair Set-UpLorraine Doering 760-758-4100 x102	
ACTTS Young Adults	Kitchen OverseerAgne Bolsakov 760-473-8461	
Family Services	-	
Marriage Preparation Rev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100 Widows & Widowers of North County Carol Kope 760-726-0533	Development Council Committees	
	Annual Catholic Appeal	
Parish Organizations & Events Lisa & Pat Attardo 760-940-1505	New Construction Brian Leahey 760-598-5697	
Golf Classic	Parish MembershipValerie Thompson 760-630-1703	
HistorianBrandon Oswald 760-845-5450	Planned Giving	
Knights of ColumbusJim Baker 760-630-2471	Publicity/Public Relations	
Social ActivitiesHenny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100	Sacrificial Giving/TithingPaul Ibbetson 760-734-1051	
Spirited SeniorsJudy & Jerry Buoniconti 760-758-5113	Scrip SalesMike Nichols 760-727-75222	
Treasures Flea Market John & Wendy Murphy 760-945-9935		
Walking MinistryDiane Pal 760-815-2519	Stewardship	
Women's GuildVera Bayliss 760-739-9061	Vehicle DonationsVlad Bolsakov 760-758-4100 x100	
	Welcome Ministry Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120	
	ral Staff	
Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor		
Deacon Tom Goeltz		
Sr. Maureen Brown, Pastoral Associate		
Kathleen Bell, Director of Faith Formation		
Rory Griffin, Interim Youth Advocate		
Stacey Griffin, Faith Formation Office Assistant		
Kathy Santy, Assistant Music Director		
Sally Fay, Organist/Choir Accompanist		
Chris Smith, Director of Stewardship and Development		
Joe Garcia, Director of Maintenance		
Henny Jocelyn, Receptionist/Secretary		
Natalie Provinse, Bookkeeper		
Lorraine Doering, Parish Office Technician		

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Office of the Bishop

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I write to you concerning a serious matter that negatively impacts the Church in the United States and strikes at the fundamental right to religious liberty for citizens of any faith. The federal government has just dealt a heavy blow not only to Catholics but to millions more who are served by the Catholic faithful.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced last week that almost all employers, including Catholic employers, will be forced to provide employees' health coverage that will include contraception, sterilization, and abortion-inducing drugs. Nearly all health insurers will be forced to include these "services," and nearly everyone will be forced to buy that coverage. As a result, in the Diocese of San Diego, this will impact institutions such as Catholic Charities, Father Joe's Villages, and our diocesan Catholic Schools.

In so ruling, the Obama Administration is denying to Catholics the fundamental freedom of religious liberty guaranteed by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. Unless the rule is overturned, we will be compelled either to violate our consciences or to drop health coverage for our employees and thus suffer severe penalties. We simply cannot comply with this unjust law.

I would ask of you two things. First, as a community of faith, we must commit ourselves to prayer and fasting, so that wisdom may prevail and religious liberty be restored. Second, please visit the USCCB web site, www.usccb.org/conscience, to learn more about this assault on religious liberty and to join others in contacting Congress in support of legislation that would reverse the Obama Administration's decision.

I thank you for your prayers, sacrifice, and advocacy on behalf of protecting religious liberties.

Sincerely in our Lord,

Bishop of San Diego



World Marriage Day





World Marriage Day honors husband and wife as head of the family, the basic unit of society. It salutes the beauty of their faithfulness, sacrifice, and joy in daily married life. Our World Marriage Day Symbol speaks readily of the role and values we proclaim. Husband and wife are symbolically seen as two candle-like figures, reminding us that married love calls us to help enlighten the world. The couple is joined by a heart, focusing on love as the power that fosters unity within the couple and generates the capacity to be life-giving and inspire others to fruitfulness and unity.

The idea of celebrating marriage began in Baton Rouge, La., in 1981, when couples encouraged the Mayor, the Governor and the Bishop to proclaim St. Valentines Day as "We Believe in Marriage Day". The event was so successful, the idea was presented to and was adopted by Worldwide Marriage Encounter's National Leadership. By 1982, 43 Governors officially proclaimed the day and celebrations spread to U.S. military bases in several foreign countries. In 1983, the name was changed to "World Marriage Day", designated to be celebrated each year on the second Sunday in February. In 1993, his Holiness, Pope John Paul II, imparted his Apostolic Blessings on World Marriage Day. WMD celebrations continue to grow and spread to more countries and faith expressions every year.

Prayer for Our Marriage

Heavenly Father, we thank You for Your tremendous gift of the Sacrament of Marriage. Enable us to grow in our intimacy with You and with each other. Teach us the beauty of forgiveness so that we may become more and more one in heart, mind, and body. Strengthen our communication with each other, and help us become living signs of Your Love. Help us to become examples of Commitment, Love, and Service to our families and children. Make us a sign of the unity that Jesus prays for at the Last Supper. We open ourselves to the guidance of your Holy Spirit, who empowers us to Love in Jesus' name and walk in His footsteps. Amen.



World Marriage Day





It's a Fact!

- 1. A kiss from your spouse, when leaving the house, makes for a safe and more productive day.
- 2. Hug your spouse often... it helps to relieve stress.
- 3. Communicating the positive in your heart will increase the happiness in your life.
- 4. The world's most expressive four letter word is still LOVE.
- 5. Love wasn't put in you heart to stay. Love isn't love till you give it away!

Retrouvaille...a Lifeline for Marriages

Do you feel lost, alone, or bored in your marriage?
Are you frustrated, hurt, or angry with your spouse?
Are you constantly fighting?
Or, do you simply shut down?
Have you thought about separation or divorce?
Does talking about it only make it worse?

Retrouvaille provides marriage help. Contact Fr. Mike for more information.

Celebrate Your Love

- 1. Give your spouse a hug...and hold it for an extra few seconds.
- 2. Tell your spouse right now "I Love You."
- 3. Take out your wedding pictures tonight and share a memory with family and friends.
- 4. Show the family movies tonight to celebrate a marriage well done.
- 5. Bring a gift tonight to your spouse.
- 6. Fix his or her favorite meal tonight.
- 7. Share your love for each other with your children tonight.
- 8. Ask your spouse for a date tonight.
- 9. Tell each other how much your marriage means to you.
- 10. Your marriage relationship is the most intimate relationship possible on earth. Be proud of it and the joys and sacrifices that have made it strong.
- 11. Reach out not long distance and touch your spouse.
- 12. Share your love story with your children tonight.