

Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor Deacon John Fredette 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



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

December 2, 2012 • First Sunday of Advent

Pastor's Column

Advent—Search for Light

"The Church celebrates the feast of the Birth of John the Baptist in June, around the time of the summer solstice, the longest day of the year. From John's feast onward, days become shorter and light decreases. Now, during Advent, we approach the winter solstice, the darkest day of the year, that includes nature's promise of more light to follow.

John knew he must decrease so that Christ may increase. We can take his analogy into our hearts. As we prepare for the coming of Christ, we can try to understand how we can decrease so that Christ may increase in our hearts and in the world.

Thanksgiving rituals of family, food and friends prepared us for the coming weeks of increasing darkness. The outside world is already in Christmas frenzy, urging us to get out there and shop, shop, shop. But the externals of power and possessions do not satisfy the longing. No matter how much we accumulate, there is something else we need. As God's creations, we can only find security in God's care. Too many times we forget that, and waste time wandering around in the dark looking for substitutes."

> —Phyllis Zagano Advent Day by Day—Search for Light Catholic Update

As we begin this Advent, as we wait for the Return of the Lord, and as we prepare to celebrate His First Coming at Christmas, may we take time to "step back a bit" and look in wonder and awe at all that we are and all that we have. May we look at ourselves with a new set of eyes, appreciative of the gifts of life, love and family.

Instead of looking for "new," "bigger," and "better," may we make a conscious effort to celebrate anew what we already are and what we already have.

(Continued on page 2)



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, 6:30am-7:30pm **Liturgical Ministry:** Contact Douglas Lynn at 760-758-4100 x140

Music Ministry: Contact Douglas Lynn at 760-758-4100 x140

Communion for the Homebound/Hospitalized:

Contact Parish Office at 760-758-4100 x100 **Anointing of the Sick:** Contact Parish Office

Matrimony:

Contact Parish Office a minimum of nine months in advance For further information, contact Rev. Michael Ratajczak at 760-758-4100 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 Sunday 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, contact Kathleen Bell 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.

For further information, see page 10, or contact Chris Smith at 760-758-4100 x120 or chriss@stmoside.org.

Pastor's Column (continued from page 1)

With a sense of simplicity, may we, in Faith and Trust, once again grab hold of our many gifts, celebrate them and share them.

"The Lord Is Coming!" How are we waiting for His Return? Do we continue to deaden our senses with "new", "bigger," and "better," or are we awakening to the present moment? Are we becoming more appreciative of the miracles of life, love and family in our midst?

OPLATKI is here! Check the Information Table on the Plaza

2012 World Mission Sunday \$2.415.96

"Did You Know" Collection for November 2012 \$3,456.00

Help Establish STM's Archives

The STM Historian is looking for material from events and activities since our Parish was established in 1985. I am looking for photographs, newspaper clippings, brochures, fliers, reports, videos, drawings—anything that represents our congregational memory! Please check your drawers, file cabinets, and that creepy ol' box in the attic. You can drop off your donation at the Parish Office. Thanks!

For more information and questions, please feel free to contact: Brandon at 760-845-5450 or *brandon.oswald@gmail.com*.

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.*

Walking Ministry

Join the Walking Ministry on Tuesday mornings at 8:00am starting from the Parish Center parking lot. For more information, contact Diane Pal at 760-815-2519.

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 picked up.
You get the tax deduction!

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

Since 2006 we have netted over \$26,000

from this program. Thank you donors!









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

Readings for the Week Ahead

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

Sunday, December 2 (3)

First Sunday of Advent
Jeremiah 33:14-16
Psalm 25:4-5,8-10,14
1 Thessalonians 3:12–4:2
Luke 21:25-28,34-36

Monday, December 3 (175)

Francis Xavier, priest Isaiah 2:1-5 Psalm 122:1-9 Matthew 8:5-11

Tuesday, December 4 (176) *John Damascene, priest, doctor* Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalm 72:1,7-8,12-13,17 Luke 10:21-24

Wednesday, December 5 (177)

Isaiah 25:6-10a Psalm 23:1-6 Matthew 15:29-37

Thursday, December 6 (178)

Nicholas, bishop Isaiah 26:1-6

Psalm 118:1,8-9,19-21,25-27a Matthew 7:21,24-27

Friday, December 7 (179)

Ambrose, bishop, doctor Isaiah 29:17-24, Psalm 27:1,4,13-14 Matthew 9:27-31

Saturday, December 8 (689)

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Genesis 3:9-15,20

Psalm 98:1-4 Ephesians 1:3-6,11-12

Luke 1:26-38 Sunday, December 9 (6)

Second Sunday of Advent Baruch 5:1-9

Baruch 5:1-9 Psalm 126:1-6

Philippians 1:4-6,8-11

Luke 3:1-6

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 1, 5:00pm Peter Coppola ♥

Sunday, December 2, 8:30am Roy Heath 🕆

Sunday, December 2, 10:30am Bert Botkin 🕏

Tuesday, December 4, 8:15am Bob Shea む Julie Shea む

Wednesday, December 5, 8:15am Daniel Dorsa 🕏

Thursday, December 6, 8:15am Joe Kudzia ♥

Friday, December 7, 8:15am Poor Souls

Saturday, December 8, 9:00am Alicia Diaz 🕈

Saturday, December 8, 5:00pm Terence Flanagan ♥

Sunday, December 9, 8:30am Nicholas Angelucci, Sr. 🕈

Sunday, December 2, 10:30am Jacinto Mangahas 🕏 **Prayer List** (Call 760-758-4100 x102 to add a name for four weeks.)

Mary Alexander Lucia Ambriz Mary Balli Jose Luis Barbosa Patricia Barbour Barbara Barter Clarice Bednarz John Bennici Regina Bentz Lisa Berg Roseanne Berg George "Whitey" Betus Mary Betz Betty Jean Bielich Lynda Brady Monica Broussard Janet Brown Todd Brown Anita & Bill Buerger Bridget Buford Shelby Campbell Brianne Campos Claudia Caplinger Paul Cassidy Dick Clarke Dolly Cole Carl Coleman James Coleman Thomas Cornwell & Family Lené Crowe Karen Flaharty Daley Beverly de Gelder Stephanie de Villeneuve Brendan Devlin Ryan Devlin Judith DiMatteo Art Dossman Dave Dossman John Drazkowski, Jr. La Vonne Dumas Connor Eberhard Sharon Evans The Fiore Family The Fischer Family Ryan Flum The Fortier Family The Fox Family Mike Franchino Eugene Franciscus Kathryn Franklin Joe Freire Brian Frink Jim Gallagher Carmen Garcia Jack & Marge Gillen The Gliottone Family Rick Gonzalez Rosemary Haeffelin Susan Hallahan Nan Hallbick The Harker Family Elizabeth Harrison Lilian Hills Susan Hori Iolanda Iacobelli Linda Iacobelli Bennett Sue Johnston The Kater Family The Kater Family
Paul Kennedy
The Kersey Family
Peggy Kiernan
Debbie Kinney
Dewey Kolbo
Helen Kuhn
Lillian Lachance The Lamelin Family Christopher & Roland Lawrence Brandon LeBlanc The Dave Leisle Family Jeremiah Lemus

Jeffrey Leonardi

The Paul Leué Family Ashley Load Cassandra Loretto

Claudia Leué

Lauren Loretto

Jeff McCoy Bob McWilliams

Richard Lynn James MacArthur Joaquin Maldonado Chandler May

Joyce Meehan Kalei Mendiola Bill Metzger Phyllis Minaya June Mitchell June Montgomery Nancy Moore Elizabeth Muehlbacher Conrad Murphy Margie Myers Bernadette Padovan Art Palle Lupe Casas Pelletier Helen Pingtella Marilyn Pirkola The Pitesa Family Douglas Price-Williams Barbara Ramm Mrs. Jack (Shirley) Riley Rita Ritchie Adela Rivera Elena Rivera The Roberts Family Maria Rogers Dorothy Rouse The Russo Family Dan Ryan Kimberly Schlunt Linda Schmidt
The Douglas E. Schulte Family Bob, Joan, & Julie Shea Elizabeth Shirzad Richard Sikora Jeanne Sisson Beth Snyder Mike Snyder Nick Soltau Fred & Gilda Spiegl Darek, Vanessa, & Elba Spizewski Patricia St. Pierre Dorothy Staehr Ted Stanislawski The Stringer Family Pete Sullivan David Sweet
Tommy & Ginger Thompson
Valerie Thompson
Sarah Tillinghast William Tompson Stephen Toth, Jr.
Mary Tysko & Family
Barbara Upson
Ethel & Bob Vanderhagen Silvana Vettese Vanessa Vitiello Barbara Voelpel Kevin Watson-Graff John Whitton Helen Wodyka Erin Young 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
StfSgt Evans Formica, USMC
Grant Fischer
MSGT Steve Gallegos, USMC
Sgt. Alex Garcia
BM2 Bobby Hartdegen, US Navy
Staff Sgt. Travis M. Meyers, USAF
2nd Lt. Janelle Peske, USMC
Pvt. 2 Jess Phillips, US Army
Sr. Airman Robert Spear, USAF
Tyler Timmerman, US Army
Sgt. Charles Watts, USMC
Msgt. Paul Weisinger, USMC
Major Seth Wolcott, USMC

Calendar Highlights

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

Serie daire di	ii Cuiviiaui
Dec 2	Liturgy of the Word for Children at 8:30am Mass
Dec 2	RE.A.CH Classes at
DCC 2	Church, including high
	school
Dec 3	Morning Prayer at 8:15am
Dec 4-5	Restaurant Fundraiser at
	Chili's
Dec 8	Immaculate Conception of
	the Blessed Virgin Mary—
	Mass at 9:00am
Dec 9	Liturgy of the Word for
	Children at 8:30am Mass
Dec 9	RE.A.CH Classes at
	Church, including high
	school
Dec 10	Morning Prayer at 8:15am
Dec 16	Parish Reconciliation
	Service at 4:00pm
Dec 24	Vigil of Christmas—Masses
	at 4:00pm, 6:00pm and
	10:00pm (caroling at
	9:30pm)
Dec 25	Christmas Day—Mass at
Dec 23	9:30am
Dec 31	Octave of Christmas: Mary
Dec 31	the Mother of God—Mass
	at 5:00pm
2013	ат 3.00рш
Jan 1	Octave of Christmas: Mary
	the Mother of God—Mass
	at 9:30am
Jan 6	Stewardship Appreciation
	Reception
Jan 12-31	Stewardship Awareness/
	Renewal
Jan 25	Preview of Interior Church
	Elements
Feb 16	Women's Guild Fashion
	Show at Shadowridge CC
Mar 17	New Member Reception

Pray for Women Religious

Towers of Faith Reception

Second Annual STM Gala

Apr 21

June 7

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

December 3					
Sr. Annette Bower, CSJ					
December 4					
Sr. Breege Boyle, SSL					
December 5					
Sr. Rose Marie Brausam, OSF					
December 6					
Sr. Josephine Breen, RSM					
December 7					
Sr. Gemma Gabriela Briseno, SJS					
December 8					
Sr. Margaret Brody, CSN					
December 9					
Sr. Maureen Evelyn Brown, CSJ					

Welcome New Parishioners

Greg & Carolyn Kinnon & Family

Congratulations to

Pat & Tom Hannon

who celebrated their 49th wedding anniversary November 30.

May God continue to bless your marriage, and may you be an inspiration to other married couples.

In Memoriam



Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Jack Fischer, who died on November 9. His Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Friday, December 14, at 11:00am at St. Thomas More. Please keep his family in your prayers.

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

Retirement Fund for Religious Share in the Care

Envelopes are attached to the bulletin this week for the collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious, which helps to support retired nuns, brothers, and priests. Envelopes can be returned any time during December. Thank you! For more information, visit retiredreligious.org

Hurricane Sandy Relief

Catholic Charities is accepting contributions for the Hurricane Sandy Storm Relief efforts. Donations can be made at www.ccdsd.org or by mailing a check to Catholic Charities, 349 Cedar St., San Diego, CA 92101 (indicate "Hurricane Sandy" in the memo line). 100% of donations will be directed to assist those in the affected area.

STM \$crip News

Planning a holiday feast or having trouble finding a gift for that special someone...No worries. From grocery to specialty stores, Scrip can cover all your holiday needs. So *Jingle All The Way* over to the Scrip table or the Parish Office to place or pick up orders and help us to build our church.

Check online for an updated Scrip list and online ordering system: www.stmoside.org, Contact Us, then Scrip.

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

New Engaging Spirituality Group to Begin in January!

Engaging Spirituality is a structured, small group opportunity to practice living deeply and loving broadly! We look to Jesus as our model of integrity, of holiness. The **Engaging Spirituality** process helps us pattern our lives around prayer, outreach, personal, and communal practices in order to set us loose as agents of love and healing in this broken world.

A new evening group will begin this journey together the last week in January 2013. If there is enough interest in a day group, we will do our best to accommodate.

Please sign up at the Information Table on the Plaza soon so that we have time to plan!

For further information or if you have any questions, please call Sr. Maureen at 760-758-4100 x131.

Christmas Angel Ministry 2012-2013

The 2012 Christmas Angel program began with a great response last weekend. This week you'll notice the tree is full of additional ornaments: ANGELS for boy and girl gifts of all ages, SNOWFLAKES for gift cards and GINGERBREAD MEN for Camp Pendleton Naval Hospital family adoptions. Please continue to take ornaments and consider adopting a family. See an angel at the table for adoptions and see the scrip table to buy gift cards.

NOTE: All STOCKING ornament gifts are due back Sunday December 2 so volunteers can sort and buy any needed items in time for the stuffing of stockings and gift bags on Saturday, December 8 at 10:00am on the lower level of the Parish Center. Gifts from the other ornaments will be due the following Sunday, December 9.

Thank you in advance, STM Parishioners, for your time and generosity.

 $John\ \&\ Marti\ Harper\ \bullet 4 johnnysangel @cox.net\ \bullet 760\text{-}724\text{-}1181$

Donations of Christmas Cards Needed for Inmates to Send to Their Families

The Office for Social Ministry's Restorative Justice Program coordinates the distribution of Christmas cards each year to jails, prisons, and detention facilities.

Needed: boxes of unsigned Christmas cards, especially Spanish language cards. Please, no cards containing pieces that can be removed or cards which request donations to an organization.

Bring the cards to the Parish Office by Monday, December 3.

For more information or questions, contact 858-490-8323 or *jwalsh@diocese-sdiego.org*.

A Retreat at Sea!

I will be leading a "Retreat at Sea" on a cruise from Miami Beach to Rio de Janeiro in November 2013. Flyers are available in the Parish Office or at the information table on the Plaza after Masses. —Fr. Mike Ratajczak

Parish Events

Women's Guild News

Our next Board meeting will be on Monday, December 3 at the Tea Table. We will meeting in the STM parking lot at 10:30am and drive over together.

The next General Meeting will be held on Monday, December 10, at 11:00am on the lower level of the Parish Center. This year we will be celebrating Italy with an Italian luncheon. Don't miss this event. Lots of fun and entertainment. You know who to call for reservations: Vera at 760-295-0059 or Siggie at 760-994-4727. Please join us. We'd love to see you.

If you meet someone today that doesn't have a smile, give them one of yours.

-Vera Bayliss, President

Women's Guild Christmas Raffle

If for some reason you did not receive raffle tickets in the mail for the December 8-9 Christmas drawing sponsored by the STM Women's Guild and would like to become eligible to win, please call Ann Buko at 760-726-8831. She will mail raffle tickets to you. Prizes are \$500, \$300, and \$200. You may also pick up tickets in the Parish Office during the week. All ticket stubs must be returned by December 2.

Women's Ministry—Simplifying Christmas— Ways to Take the Hectic Out of the Holidays

Join us on Friday, December 7, at 7:00pm as Fr. Mike speaks about keeping Advent traditions throughout the season. Snacks and coffee, too!

K of C Entertainment Books and More!

The Knights of Columbus will be selling Entertainment Books for \$40 on the Plaza after weekend Masses, as well as Christmas cards and "Keep Christ in Christmas" magnets, and the proceeds will go to helping our church and community. Please contact Matt Perun at 760-734-1934 if you are interested or have any questions.

Spirited Seniors Winter Luncheon

The Spirited Seniors are sponsoring a Winter Luncheon on Tuesday, December 18, for members and guests. The deadline for reservations is December 10. The Luncheon is \$12.50 for members and \$15 for guests. Please put your reservation request and check in an envelope marked "Spirited Seniors Winter Luncheon" and place it in the offertory collection or the Parish Office Box 12, by December 10. For more info, contact Jim and Marilyn Day at 760-509-4545 <code>jandmday@cox.net</code>.

Vocations

As we begin the Advent season...the anticipation of the coming of the Messiah...let us take time to listen to the voice of God. If you think you hear Him calling to you to be His servant as a priest, deacon, or religious and wish to explore the call, contact Deacon Tom at *thomasgoeltz@aol.com* or 760-727-8442. The babe to be born in the manger came to change hearts and call people to him, but he needs workers. A noble vocation.

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

November 30 Response Statistics One Month to Go!

Total Collected to Date \$513.438

† WOW! We give special thanks to the 704 dedicated households (68% of the parish) who have helped us to exceed our \$500,000 campaign goal!



- † Special thanks for our 61 "Adopt a Family" gift donations, and to all those households who have increased their dollar amounts in Phase 2.1.
- † Every contribution continues to help. No gift is too small or too large!
- † The support of our faith community is phenomenal and gratifying as we start to build and pay as we go!

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

Annual Financial Report

The annual financial report for fiscal year ending 2012 is available on the Parish website, www.stmoside.org. Click on Finance under Parish Councils, then click on Parish Financial Report Fiscal Year Ending 2012 on the right side (or visit our Facebook page—www.facebook.com/StThomasMoreRCC. For those without internet access, copies are available through the Parish Office during the week.

Thank You from Brother Benno's

Once again you have outdone yourselves in generosity. This year, Brother Benno's fed over 300 people at their annual Thanksgiving Feast for those in need. This year, thanks to your outpouring of kindness, we had more pies than ever before so that everyone had a slice with some left over for seconds. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

A special thanks to Therese Allen, Director of the Ralph's store at Cannon and Melrose, for the loan of bread trays to help in the delivery of our pies. It sure made our job easier.

Liturgy & Music



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

ADVENT

A Sense of the Season

Our culture does not like Advent.

There, I said it! In mid-October, retail giants debuted Christmas decorations, toys, special foods, and reminders that you could upgrade to the store credit cards for discounts and the right to pay for all the stuff in 2013! We are impatient people. Get it NOW or else...

Waiting is a pain. We're all in such a hurry! So much stuff to do! Okay, okay, I guess it depends on what or for whom you are waiting!

We measure all our days by the passing of the hours with the tick-tock of a clock and the rising and setting of the sun.

Advent gives us an opportunity to take a breather—settle down—wait for, long for, hope for the Savior of the world. Just like expectant parents' count the days until they hold their baby in their arms, so we too need to wait for all that the Lord promises us with the birth of the Holy child.

We light candles in the midst of all the darkness in our lives and in the world. They symbolize our longing, our desire, and our hope. We want to be renewed in a sense that Jesus came to save us from our sins and death. We want to experience his coming to us now, in our everyday lives, to help us live our lives with meaning and purpose. And we want to prepare for his coming to meet us at the end of our lives on this earth. We need to stay awake and WATCH!

Advent is a penitential season, but less so than Lent. The liturgical color is violet with the third Sunday being rose in celebration of the Gaudete from that week's reading from Philippians 4:4-5: "Gaudete in Domino semper" ("Rejoice in the Lord always"). Our Advent wreath, placed amid the assembly, is made of local seasonal greens. The Manzanita branch relates to the first reading from Jeremiah that foretells the raising of a "just Shoot." Our environment is simple and reflective, which helps us pause and contemplate the profound mystery of the Incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

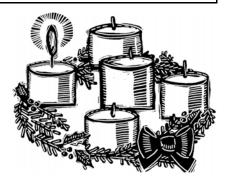
Liturgy ministers and all the faithful are called during this Year of Faith, to prepare, encourage, serve, welcome, grow, proclaim, and receive the God who is good and upright, kind and constant, faithful and forgiving.

Come Lord Jesus, live in my mind, dwell in my heart, be my companion on the journey of life. Amen.*

Behold, I am coming soon.Revelation 22:7

Kathy Arciero Liturgy Chairperson

*Year of Faith Mantra





Upcoming Music

Ж

DECEMBER 8 Immaculate Conception

9:00am Mass

Cantor and Congregation

X

DECEMBER 9
Second Sunday
of Advent
5:00pm Mass
Handbell Choir

8:30am Mass

Sanctuary Choir

10:30am Mass

Praise Team

SAVE THE DATE!

Be a part of the Incarnation story as we decorate for Christmas! Sunday, December 23, right after the 10:30am Mass. Many hands make light work, we appreciate everyone's help!

Call Kathy for more information: 760-231-1022

MORNING PRAYER

Mondays in Advent

8:15am

IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION
Saturday, Dec 8, 9:00am

ADVENT
RECONCILIATION
SERVICE

Sunday, Dec 16, 4:00pm

Faith Formation



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



December 2 AND 9 are RE.A.CH Sundays at Church

Parents. . . Parishioners

Join us for the Catholicism Series Sunday, 5:00-6:30pm

Part 3: THE EXISTENCE OF GOD

Father Barron considers St. Anselm's description of God as *that than which nothing greater can be thought*, and goes on to explain St. Thomas Aquinas' arguments which support the claim that God truly exists. He also speaks from the Catholic tradition about the nature of God and the challenging question of evil and the existence of God.

Father Barron invites us to the heights of the Sinai desert and makes his way to mysterious Istanbul, walks the glittering streets of Paris and then captivates the viewer with the glories of the Sistine Chapel in Rome.

Next Sunday, December 9:

Part 4: MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

In this episode, Father Barron masterfully correlates the Catholic Faith's testimony to the revelation of God in Christ with the vivid practices of reverence offered to his Mother. Mary is explained as an on-going presence, an actor in the life of the Church.

Father Barron journeys to the humble remains of Mary's house in Nazareth, to the ruins of the ancient city of Ephesus and to the great Marian shrines of Lourdes and Guadalupe to explain the Church's teachings about Mary as the Mother of God, the Immaculate Conception and the dogma of the

PBJ Update

(Food for children at the Emergency Crisis Center)

2012 GOAL: 365 jars Revised final count: 365 jars!!!



Our count begins again today with the new church year.

Fair Trade Advent/Christmas Table December 8 and 9

Daniel Abrahms

During this Advent/Christmas season, St. Thomas More's Youth Justice Foundation, better known as the people selling that delicious fair trade chocolate after Mass, will offer fairly traded cocoa and coffee as well as the famous chocolate we all know and love.

The Youth Justice Foundation decided to start offering these new products to help farmers receive a fair wage for their work and to make sure your purchases have an impact beyond the products. All of the products that the Youth Justice Foundation offers are harvested and grown by farmers that were paid fairly and happily.

Additionally, this month the Youth Justice Foundation's sales will help Casa de Amparo, an organization that has been treating and preventing child abuse for over 30 years. This organization could really use our help and would appreciate any assistance it can get. And what's a great and easy way to do this? Buying products from The Youth Justice Foundation after Mass!

So this Christmas wrap yourself in a warm blanket in front of the flickering fire, enjoy a hot cup of fairly traded coffee from the Youth Justice Foundation, and keep Christ in your hearts along with your global and local neighbors who will benefit greatly as a result of your economic decisions.



Stewardship & Development



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

Christian Stewardship As we enter into a new Church year . . .

On this first Sunday of Advent, Jesus warns about the end of time; be vigilant, spiritually awake, pray, avoid self indulgence, spiritual malaise, and a preoccupation with anxiety.

Jesus advises against a lifestyle of earthly pleasures and worry. These will not matter when the Lord asks for an account of our stewardship. Stewards realize their lives are not just about the here and now. They know themselves to be reflections of the Lord's promises.

As we begin this season of hope, let us reflect on the practical effect of having every waking moment in our lives dedicated to the Lord.

Gracious Lord,

Let your goodness reveal itself to us, that we, made in your image, may conform ourselves to it.

We cannot imagine your majesty, power and wonder on our own; nor is it fitting for us to try.

But your kindness and mercy reach from the heavens, through the clouds, to the earth below to show us the fruits of your Incarnation.

You have come to us as a small child, but you have brought us the greatest of all gifts, the gift of you eternal love.

Caress us with your tiny hands, embrace us with your tiny arms, and soften our hearts with your tender voice so that we might respond as humble stewards of your active presence in the world.

We pray this through Christ, your Son who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.

Amen.

—Adapted from a prayer by Saint Bernard of Clairvaux ICSC Parish e-bulletin, December 2012(with permission)

When God gives us life, we don't know how much time we have to use.

But whatever time we have is a gift from God and we must use it wisely, in every activity throughout our days, weeks, months and years.

HELPFUL YEAR-END PLANNING TIPS GOT DEDUCTIONS?

2012 YEAR-END CHECKLIST

- ♦ BE SURE TO COMPLETE all gifts by December 31 to qualify for tax savings on this year's tax return. Advance planning with the Parish Office is essential, since the office will be closed from December 25, 2012-January 2, 2013. Please contact the office BEFORE December 25 to make arrangements if necessary.
- ♦ Donations received the weekend of December 29-30 (or on December 31), will be credited in 2012.
- ♦ Envelopes POSTMARKED by Monday, December 31, 2012 will be credited for the 2012 tax year.
- ♦ Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) ~ If you have a balance due on this year's ACA pledge, please complete payments by December 31, 2012. (*Tithing families, know that your tithe covers your ACA contribution.*)
- Keep all gift receipts and acknowledgment letters, especially for gifts of \$250 or more.
- If you sold securities this year and will owe capital gains tax, remember that gifts of cash or other securities may partially or fully offset any tax on your gains. Please confer with your tax consultant for more information.

Chris Smith, 760-758-4100 x120 or chriss@stmoside.org

All gifts to St. Thomas More are deeply appreciated!

Collection for Week of November 24/25, 2012 Number of Registered Households 1,040 Offertory* \$ 6,476.93 Offertory (Loose Collection) 1,232.50 Children's envelopes 3.00 Total \$ 7,712.43

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

The Center for Christian Spirituality at the University of San Diego has a great line up of fall events. Visit www.sandiego.edu/ccs for more details.

Mission San Luis Rey Retreat Center in Oceanside has an ongoing schedule of retreats. Visit *www.sanluisrey.org* for more details. Upcoming events include an Advent Retreat December 7-9 on the Infancy Narratives in the Gospel of Matthew, a Quiet Monday on the last Monday of each month, and a Retreat December 14-16 on St. Francis and the First Live Nativity.

St. Patrick Catholic School in Carlsbad—accepting applications for the 2013-2014 school year (kindergarten through eighth grade). For more information, contact Cynthia Orozco, Registrar at 760-729-1333.

Holiday Joy Vocal Concert in Escondido—Saturday, December 8, 7:00pm, Trinity Episcopal Church, 845 Chestnut St., Escondido, featuring the California Center for the Arts Center Chorale and several children's choirs. For more information, visit *www.escondidochoralart.com*.

Casa de Molina/Friends of the Poor Annual Children's Christmas Party—Saturday, December 15, 4833 Morning Canyon Rd., Oceanside, 12:00-2:00pm. Parishioner Vicky Molina and her family and friends have been hosting this event for over 25 years. They can use help with time, money, and/or toys. If you are interesting in participating, please contact Vicky at motherV5@cox.net or 760-630-1983.

Support Group for Separated/Divorced—An ongoing support group meeting Sundays at 10:15am at St. James Catholic Church in Solana Beach. For more information, contact Frank Grant at 760-533-1520 or fwgrant@gmail.com.

News from St. Francis Church

Let your child reach out and discover the world St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School

For 30 years, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School has shown the world to thousands of children through the window of our preschool! With classes for two-year-olds through pre-K, our program allows children to discover and develop in a warm, loving, Christ-centered environment.



Is your child ready for preschool? We offer a variety of part- and full-time programs to accommodate your child's needs. Limited space is currently available and applications for the 2013 school year will be out

Find out more about our programs by calling preschool director, Jennifer Paino at 760-630-7964 or visit www.sfs-vista.org.

St. Thomas More Parishioners are extended the same benefits and rewards as St. Francis Parishioner.s **Volunteers Needed at Birth Choice of Oceanside**—Training provided for those interested in volunteering as counselors for this pro-life, Christ-centered pregnancy resource center offering free pregnancy testing, ultrasound, and options counseling for women in crisis. For more information, contact Mary Rose Stearns at 760-434-5063 or *mrstearns@birthchoice.net*.

Pauline Books and Media—5945-B Balboa Ave., San Diego, carries a wide selection of gifts, books, and bibles—great for First Communion and Confirmation gifts. For more information, contact 858-565-9181.

Catholic Singles Organization—The Catholic Alumni Club International is expanding into the San Diego area. Visit *www.caci.org* for more information.

Foster Children Need Advocates—Voices for Children is looking for volunteers to be Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs). Information meetings on May 22 and June 6. For more

24/7 Catholic Radio—AM 1000—San Diego

Free program guides and bumper stickers available from our Parish ambassador on the Plaza after weekend Masses.

Visit ihradio.com/sandiego

Catholics Come Home

Do you have a family member, friend, or co-worker who has left the Catholic Church? If so, encourage them to visit www.CatholicsComeHome.org.

Young Adult Ministry Activities

Visit www.yamsd.org for complete information on events for young adults, including *Theology on Tap* series, Christmas Gala on December 8, New Year's Eve Celebration on December 31, and outreach projects.

Also, search Office of Young Adult Ministry on Facebook.

Marriage & Family Life Corner

The Bishops' Letter on Marriage—Marriage and Eucharist: "In the Eucharist, spouses encounter the love that animates and sustains their marriage, the love of Christ for his Church. This encounter enables them to perceive that their marriage and family are not isolated units, but rather that they are to reach out in love to the broader Church and world of which they are a living part." To read the document go to https://www.usccb.org/loveandlife/.

Marriage Moments—As a husband and wife were hanging wallpaper together, the husband felt his wife seemed, to be indifferent about the quality of her work and was doing a poor job. He finally said, "The problem is that I'm a perfectionist and you're not." The wife replied, "Exactly! That's why you married me and I married you!"

Parenting Pointers—December 2 is the First Sunday of Advent. Do you know how you will use these 23 days before Christmas? Can you wait with Mary or will your time be spent celebrating before the feast?

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 11/18/2012

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

	•			
Pastoral Council Committees	Brother Benno's Collections Deac			
Faith Formation & EvangelizationRory Griffin 760-414-3939	Mike Nichols 760-822-3664			
Religious Education (Adults) Kathleen Bell 760-758-4100 x110	Brother Benno's Kitchen Servers			
Small Church Communities Sondra Parks 760-598-1269	Christmas Angel MinistryJohn	& Marti Harper 760-724-1181		
Little Rock Bible StudiesPauline Lapre 760-727-8339	Culture of Life			
Religious Education (Children) Kathleen Bell 760-758-4100 x110	CPR/AED Classes			
	Disability FacilitationAnn Eriksson 760-599-7151			
Liturgy of the Word for Children	Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice			
Sacramental Preparation				
Mid. Sch. Youth MinistryMarcus Cabrera 760-758-4100 x161	Jail MinistryRita	McCarthy 760-758-4100 x100		
High School Youth Ministry Marcus Cabrera 760-758-4100 x161	JustFaithSr. Maure			
Women's Ministry/Fellowship Shannon Oswald 760-889-1469				
Men's Fellowship	More's WorkersCherie &	Greg Abrahms 760-598-6776		
Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs Regina Aulisio 760-295-5530	North County Solutions for Change (NCSC)			
Vocations	Kevi			
RCIA	Prayer Request Line			
Liturgy	N	forma Flanagan 760-630-0180		
Altar Linen Care	Project Linus	Mary Coxon 760-599-8760		
Art & Environment	San Diego Organizing Project (SDOP)			
Bereavement Facilitator Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131	Sr. Maure	en Brown 760-758-4100 x131		
Eucharistic Adoration	Social Justice Committee	Henri Black 760-758-8137		
Interior Design Team Pat & Phil Goscienski 760-732-1414	St. Bonaventure Mission			
Liturgical MinistriesDouglas Lynn 760-758-4100 x140	Office Support Henn			
Liturgical MusicDouglas Lynn 760-758-4100 x140	General SupportHenn	y Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100		
Sick & Homebound (Eucharist). Jean McCloskey 760-758-4100 x100	Chair Set-UpLorrain			
Marriage & Family Life Jen Frost 858-692-7438	Kitchen Overseer	Agne Bolsakov 760-473-8461		
ACTTS Young AdultsJen Frost 858-692-7438				
Family Services Rev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100	Development Council Committees			
Marriage Preparation Rev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100	Annual Catholic AppealFlor	ra Fallone 760-758-4100 x100		
Widows & Widowers of North CountyCarol Kope 760-726-0533	Capital Campaign			
	New Construction			
Parish Organizations & Events Lisa & Pat Attardo 760-940-1505	Parish MembershipVal			
Historian Brandon Oswald 760-845-5450	Planned GivingCl			
Knights of ColumbusJim Baker 760-726-2807	Publicity/Public Relations	Jane Gladden 760-659-6168		
Social ActivitiesHenny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100	Sacrificial Giving/Tithing	Paul Ibbetson 760-734-1051		
Spirited Seniors	Scrip Sales	Mike Nichols 760-727-7522		
St. Thomas More Gala Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120	A			
Treasures Flea Market John & Wendy Murphy 760-497-6117	Stewardship Ch	rris Smith 760-758-4100 x120		
Walking MinistryDiane Pal 760-815-2519	Vehicle Donations D	iana Diaz 760-758-4100 x100		
Women's GuildVera Bayliss 760-295-0059	Welcome Ministry Ch	rris Smith 760-758-4100 x120		
Social Ministries Cherie & Greg Abrahms 760-598-6776				
Blood DriveLinda Dicus 760-726-5081				
Pasto	al Staff			
Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor	760-758-4100 x100	michaelr@stmoside.org		
Deacon John Fredette				
Deacon Tom Goeltz				
Sr. Maureen Brown, Pastoral Associate				
Kathleen Bell, Director of Faith Formation				
Marcus Cabrera, Youth Advocate				
Stacey Griffin, Faith Formation Office Assistant		6		
Douglas Lynn, Director of Liturgy and Music				
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				
Lorrance Doering, 1 arish office Technician		to atoa C bimobiac.org		
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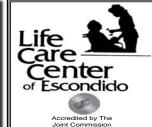
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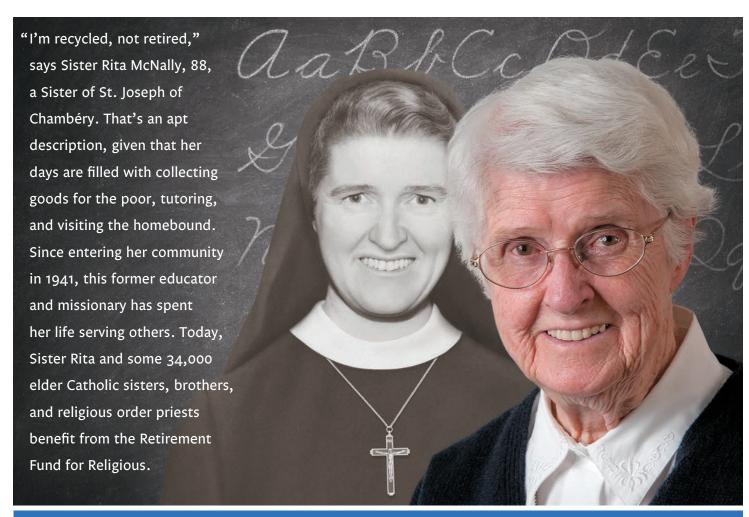


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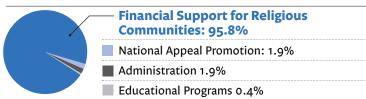
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