

Church of St. Thomas More

A Roman Catholic Parish in the Diocese of San Diego

Spirituality † Tradition † Community



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

January 6, 2013 • Epiphany of the Lord

Pastor's Column

Gifts of the Magi

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany. This day celebrates the manifestation of the infant Jesus as the one given by God not just to and for the Jews, but for the entire human race. The celebration of Epiphany actually predates the celebration of Christmas by several hundred years.

The astrologers who have traveled from the East are non-Jews and the "intelligentsia" of that day and time. Yet, they find their way to Bethlehem and to the "babe wrapped in swaddling clothes" and along with poor Jewish shepherds, worship the One sent by God.

These "Wise Men" offer gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, gifts that already in this infancy narrative (Matthew 2) foretell who this Jesus is, and what will happen to him.

GOLD is the gift given to royalty. He is King and God!

The Hebrew word for incense is derived from a verb meaning "to cause to smoke" and is used to denote the smoke from a sacrifice burnt on the altar (1 Samuel 2:15-16; Psalms 66:15). There were

two types of incense; one consisted entirely of frankincense (Leviticus 2:1, 15) and was used in conjunction with certain meal offerings. The incense of FRANKINCENSE, together with a handful of fine flour mixed with oil, was offered on the outer altar of the sanctuary.

Frankincense was also an ingredient of the offering of the showbread (Leviticus 24:7). This Jesus will be sacrificed and will be offered up on our behalf and is bread for us!

The use of scents and ointments was very necessary in the primitive hygienic conditions of the ancient world. In private life, perfumes and spices were used as ingredients in perfumed oils, ointments, and powders for cosmetic purposes, to protect the skin from the heat of the sun and the dry air, and in medicine. No less important was the role they played in the religious rituals of the ancient Near East.

(Continued on page 2)



Resources for the Christmas Season

Visit the U.S. Catholic Bishops' website (www.usccb.org) for a Christmas Family Activity Calendar

Visit www.bustedhalo.com/features/christmasopoly for a journey through ALL the days of Christmas Season

Our Mission is to: worship God,

Mass Schedule:

Saturday at 5:00pm; Sunday at 8:30am and 10:30am;
Tuesday-Friday at 8:15am;
watch bulletin for holydays

Rite of Reconciliation (Confession):

Saturday from 4:00-4:30pm (or by appointment)

Eucharistic Adoration: Monday-Friday, 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)

MYRRH was one of the most important perfumes in biblical times. It was used in the preparation of the oil with which kings were anointed (Exodus 30:23-24). It was a precious gift and much used by women (Proverbs 7:17; Esther 2:12; Song of Songs 4:14). Together with aloe it was used in preparing Jesus' body for burial (John 19:39).

Myrrh is extracted by means of incisions in the bark of a small tree that grows in tropical Africa and Arabia.

This Jesus who is King, God, and "Bread For Us" will be sacrificed and will die for us!

On this Feast of the Epiphany, we celebrate the manifestation of Jesus to the world as God's gift of love to us. In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, God shows us how completely we are loved: "In this way the love of God was revealed to us: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might have life through him. In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as expiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also must love one another." (1 John 4:9-11)

The gift given to us is meant to be shared with others! Happy Epiphany!

Fr. Mike

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

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.

Rosary

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



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 \$27,000
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, January 6 (20)
Epiphany of the Lord
Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13
Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6
Matthew 2:1-12
Monday, January 7 (212)
Raymond of Penafort, priest
1 John 3:22-4:6
Psalm 2:7bc-8, 10-12a
Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday, January 8 (213)
1 John 4:7-10
Psalm 72:1-4, 7-8
Mark 6:34-44
Wednesday, January 9 (214)
1 John 4:11-18
Psalm 72:1-2, 10, 12-13
Mark 6:45-52
Thursday, January 10 (215)
1 John 4:19-5:4
Psalm 72:1-2, 14-15bc, 17
Luke 4:14-22
Friday, January 11 (215)
1 John 5:5-13
Psalm 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20
Luke 5:12-16
Saturday, January 12 (217)
1 John 5:14-21
Psalm 149:1-6a and 9b
John 3:22-30
Sunday, January 13 (21)
The Baptism of the Lord
Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7
Psalm 29:1-4, 3, 9-10
Acts 10:34-38
Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

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

Mary Alexander
Lucia Ambriz
Regina Aulisio
Mary Balli
Jose Luis Barbosa
Patricia Barbour
Angelo Barro
Clarice Bednarz
John Bennici
Regina Bentz
Lisa Berg
Roseanne Berg
George "Whitey" Betus
Mary Betz
Betty Jean Bielich
Lynda Brady
William J. Brogan
Monica Broussard
Janet Brown
Todd Brown
Anita & Bill Buerger
Bridget Buford
Shelby Campbell
Brianna Campos
Claudia Caplinger
Thomas Carr
Paul Cassidy
Dick Clarke
Dolly Cole
Carl Coleman
James Coleman
Thomas Cornwell & Family
Lené Crowe
Karen Flaharty Daley
Martí Dawson
Beverly de Gelder
Stephanie de Villeneuve
Judith DiMatteo
Art Dossman
Dave Dossman
John Draskowski, Jr.
La Vonne Dumas
Connor Eberhard
Carolyn Erickson Ey
Sharon Evans
Lois "Boo" Falconer
The Fiore Family
Ryan Flum
Mike Franchino
Eugene Franciscus
Kathryn Franklin
Joe Freire
Brian Frink
Jim Gallagher
Carmen Garcia
Sally Garner
Lois Garth
Jack & Marge Gillen
Rick Gonzalez
Rosemary Haeffelin
Nan Hallbick
The Harker Family
Elizabeth Harrison
Barbara Hatem
Lilian Hills
Susan Hori
Iolanda Iacobelli
Linda Iacobelli Bennett
Mike Kavanaugh
Peggy Kiernan
Debbie Kinney
Dewey Kolbo
Helen Kuhn
Lillian Lachance
The Lamelin Family
Donna Lanzrath
Christopher & Roland Lawrence
Brandon LeBlanc
Jeremiah Lemus
Claudia Leué
The Paul Leué Family
Domini Levi
Ashley Load
Cassandra Loretto
Lauren Loretto
The Lyon Family
James MacArthur
Joaquin Maldonado
Angelo Marrone
Chandler May
Bob McWilliams
Kalei Mendiola
Bill Metzger
Robin Mickle
Phyllis Minaya
June Mitchell
June Montgomery
Nancy Moore
Elizabeth Muehlbacher
Conrad Murphy
Margie Myers
Richard Obsitnik
Bernadette Padovan
Lupe Casas Pelletier
Marilyn Pirkola
Janelle Poul
Douglas Price-Williams
Barbara Ramm
Josie Ramos
Lisa Reaves
Mrs. Jack (Shirley) Riley
Rita Ritchie
Adela Rivera
Elena Rivera
Maria Rogers
Dorothy Rouse
The Russo Family
The Ryan Family
Cindy Sanelli
Kimberly Schlunt
Linda Schmidt
The Douglas E. Schulte Family
Bob, Joan, & Julie Shea
Elizabeth Shirzad
Richard Sikora
Jeanne Sisson
Beth Snyder
Mike Snyder
Nick Softau
Fred & Gilda Spiegel
Darek, Vanessa, & Elba Spizewski
Patricia St. Pierre
Dorothy Staehr
Ted Stanislawski
Pete Sullivan
David Sweet
Tommy & Ginger Thompson
Sarah Tillinghast
William Tompson
Stephen Toth, Jr.
Mary Tysko & Family
Ethel & Bob Vanderhagen
Corrie Vasquez
Robert Vasquez
Silvana Vettese
Vanessa Vitiello
Barbara Voelpel
Kevin Watson-Graff
John Whitton
The Williams Family
Helen Wodyka
Erin Young
Patricia Zavala

Calendar Highlights

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

Jan 6 Liturgy of the Word for Children at 8:30am and 10:30am Masses
Jan 6 Stewardship Appreciation Reception
Jan 8-9 Restaurant Fundraiser at Nucci's
Jan 12-31 Stewardship Awareness/Renewal
Jan 13 RE.A.CH Classes at Church, including high school
Jan 13 Catholicism Series Part 5
Jan 19 San Diego Walk for Life in Balboa Park
Jan 25 Preview of Interior Church Elements
Feb 16 Women's Guild Fashion Show at Shadowridge CC
Mar 17 New Member Reception
Apr 21 Towers of Faith Reception
May 19 Confirmation
June 7 Second Annual STM Gala
Jul 15-19 Vacation Bible School: *Kingdom Rock!*
Sep 21 Treasures 2013
Sep 29 Pastor's Dinner/Excursion

Questions? Contact Henny at
760-758-4100 x100
hennyj@stmoside.org.

Mass Intentions
Saturday, January 5, 5:00pm Joey Vega ☩
Sunday, January 6, 8:30am Roy Heath ☩
Sunday, January 6, 10:30am Cosmo Nocida ☩
Tuesday, January 8, 8:15am Alicia Diaz ☩
Wednesday, January 9, 8:15am George Brown ☩
Thursday, January 10, 8:15am Rick Inlow
Friday, January 11, 8:15am Annie Clavin ☩
Saturday, January 12, 5:00pm Eleanor Costantino ☩
Sunday, January 13, 8:30am Marianne Benjamin ☩
Sunday, January 13, 10:30am Josephine Stephens ☩

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
PFC Samuel Haro, US Army
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
Mgsgt. Paul Weisinger, USMC
Major Seth Wolcott, USMC

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 7 Sr. Elaine Coutu, CSJ
January 8 Sr. Camille Crabbe, CVI
January 9 Sr. Adele Crettol, OSF
January 10 Sr. Irene Cullen, RSCJ
January 11 Sr. Alberta Curran, OCD
January 12 Sr. Rachel Daniels, SCMM
January 13 Sr. Rose Davis, RSM

Congratulations to

Cathy & Joe Meyer

who celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary December 31.

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 soul of:



Jack Williams, who died December 20. His Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Friday, January 11, at 11:00am at St. Thomas More. Please keep his wife Mary and his family in your prayers.

Becky Kaufman, who died December 27. Her funeral services were held in northern California. Please keep her mother, Parishioner Sue Lyon, and her family in your prayers.

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

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.

Restaurant Fundraisers for December 2012

\$1,235.41

"Did You Know" Collection for January 2012

\$15,284.00

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.

STM Scrip News

Thanks to everyone who shopped with Scrip this season!

If you have never purchased Scrip gift cards, try out the program this year—it can be one of your New Year's Resolutions! A percentage of each gift card purchased will go to our Parish Mortgage Fund.

Remember, Scrip is available for purchase FOUR ways!

1. On the Plaza after weekend Masses
2. Monday-Friday during business hours in the Parish Office
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! Sign Up by January 10

As much as we try to be contemplative and live simply during the Advent Season, inviting Christ to enter more deeply into our lives, the expectations of our culture distract us! While we continue to try to allow this to happen, there is also hope for the future!

Begin your new year by entering into a process that will help you to live deeply and love broadly by signing up for Engaging Spirituality, which will begin at the end of 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. We are also looking for another co-facilitator. The materials are user friendly and well structured. Mentors are available.

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

Need Help with Transportation to Church!

Volunteer drivers are needed in our Parish. Some Parishioners would like to attend Mass and cannot drive themselves. Please prayerfully consider helping some of our fellow Parishioners. If you can help in any way with this service, please contact Ann Eriksson 760-599-7151 or eriksson1@mindspring.com.



Opportunity to Help Local Families in Need



North County Solutions for Change women and children's shelter needs volunteers for meal preparation, servers, and donations (food and paper goods). St. Thomas More has committed to providing one meal per month for this ministry. In this way we answer the call of Jesus to feed the hungry and this is in our neighborhood. Any help you can provide is welcome!

Organizations as well as individuals are invited to participate with portions or entire meal preparation, drinks, desserts, and/or monetary contributions to offset the cost for those only able to cook. Please prayerfully consider if you are able to help with this important ministry and call if you can help with one of the following available dates in 2013:

**April 28, May 26, June 23,
September 22, October 27, December 22**

For more information, contact Kevin & Lyn Leahy at 760-643-0872 or k Leahy12@cox.net.

Parish Events

Women's Guild News

To everyone at St. Thomas More, hope your New Year is a happy and healthy one.

Our next board meeting will be January 7 at my house.

The next general meeting will be Monday, January 14, at 11:00am at St. Thomas More. We will be holding our annual auction and serving a very different menu this time. Please join us. Call 760-295-0059 or 760-994-4427 for reservations.

Look for more announcements in the future bulletins, including for our Fashion Show in February. Save the date: February 16. Tickets will be on sale soon. We have a great schedule of events for you for this year.

For the fashion show, if you have your opportunity baskets or door prizes ready, you can bring them to the Chinese auction luncheon on January 14. If not, get baskets to Terry Bedford or Valerie Thompson and prizes to Vera Bayliss, Mary Coxon, or Valerie Thompson when you can. Thank you for your support of our fundraiser.

See you soon!

—Vera Bayliss, President

Men's Fellowship

Men, please join us for the next Men's Fellowship gathering on Friday, January 11, at 7:00pm.

Knights of Columbus Breakfast

Mark your calendars for Sunday, January 20, and enjoy a great breakfast with fellow Parishioners. Watch the bulletin next week for more details!

Young Adult Group News

ACTTS (Adult Catholics in their Twenties and Thirties who Socialize) is partnering with the North County Young Adults group, which includes young adults from several North County Parishes. For more information or to get on the email list, contact acts@stmoside.org, visit www.yamsd.org, or search Facebook for SD YAM.

Christmas Angel Ministry 2012-2013

Thank you, STM Parishioners, for your overwhelming response to the call to help children and their families this Christmas season. Toys have been delivered to local charities and 52 families were adopted from Camp Pendleton Naval Hospital. Fr. Ken is smiling down upon us!

Now, the tree is adorned with golden crowns for our annual Birth Choice drive. Please bring your baby items this weekend, January 5-6, the Feast of the Epiphany, and present them at the manger.

A huge thank you to all the volunteers who have helped with this ministry. It would not have been possible without your time and devotion. Merry Christmas!

John & Marti Harper • 4johnnyangel@cox.net • 760-724-1181

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

Final tally in progress!

Total Collected to Date \$564,000!

† **Generous and amazing! Special thanks to the 732 dedicated households (70% of the Parish) who have helped us exceed our \$500,000 campaign goal!**



† Beginning January 1, 2013, all donations will be directed to the "Mortgage Phase" of our building fund.

† **We are all encouraged to continue our patterns of support as the Church is built!** In this way, we "pay as we go" in order to reduce our loan principal before interest payments begin.

† *Please consider maintaining your current pattern of giving with regard to the **Operations Budget** and the **Building Fund** which is now our "**Mortgage Offering**." Your commitment to both is essential in our ongoing quest to pay for our build-out. Fr. Mike's love letters are in the mail!*

† **On Friday evening, January 25, from 6:30-8:30pm, we are presenting an informational evening with:**

- ◆ Renzo Zechetto, Architect;
- ◆ Robert Habiger, Interior Design Consultant; and
- ◆ Lynn Kircher, Artist (designer of our crucifix).

RESERVE THE DATE!!! There will be updates on all of our progress, plus wine, cheese, and more for everyone.

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

**STM Custom Calendars (\$2 minimum donation!)
Available This Weekend—January 5-6
Check the Information Table**

Vocations

The new year is upon us—a time for new beginnings. If this new year brings with it a calling to a vocation as a priest, deacon or religious and you wish to explore that calling, contact Deacon Tom at thomasgoeltz@aol.com or 760-727-8442. May God's blessings be upon you this new year!

Liturgy & Music

Worship God

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

THE ENDURING POWER OF *MESSIAH*

Handel's Messiah is a staple of the Christmas season, with amateur and professional choirs presenting versions all over the world. But did you know that a typical "Christmas" Messiah includes only about forty percent of the whole work—stopping well before the heavy lifting of the Gospel begins. Intrigued? To close out the holiday season, on January 12 and 13, the choir that my wife Gail and I sing in will present what I have been calling a "darn-near-complete" Messiah at the Center for the Arts in Escondido. Joined by a professional orchestra and four great local soloists, the Center Chorale will be singing pretty much the whole thing (all but one chorus and a handful of the solos). A complete Messiah is not done very often. So why are we doing it? Marie Grass Amenta, a colleague from the east, penned some really good reasons a few weeks ago:

It is my favorite time of year—Advent. In addition to the usual busyness inherent to the holidays, I am preparing to conduct the choral portions of the Rotary Club of Park Forest's Do-It-Yourself *Messiah*.

When I began blogging for our local newspaper, I said I would be writing about music and disability and not necessarily at the same time. This is an instance where the two merge.

I love *Messiah*. Truth be told, it is probably my favorite large choral work. There's a little something for everyone—show piece arias, choruses that are both difficult and poignant, recitatives that move the story along while being musically interesting. The story that is told, using scriptures from both the Old and New Testaments, can be appreciated by all.

Traditionally, it is performed during the Advent and Christmas seasons

but it is really a Lenten work, first performed and commissioned for Lent. We as choral musicians often chop it up to fit our needs. And, masterwork that it is, it adapts, no matter if we sing only the Christmas portions—plus "Hallelujah"—or the Lenten and Easter portions, or everything in between.

Conducting *Messiah* is always challenging, no matter who the singers are. I have markings and notes and comments in my score from both long-ago performances and more recent gigs that remind me anything can happen and often does. I have had singers and instrumentalist faint. Conducting choral portions for a "Do-It-Yourself *Messiah*" has brought the craziest moments, with a youth symphony playing and soloists from the community. One year, I had to teach a conductor—who normally works with junior high string players—how to conduct recitatives because the "powers-that-be" wanted an instrumental conductor and not "just" a choral person, with interesting results.

Still, the text moves me. The choruses move me. The music moves me. I can be reserved and professional most of the time but some turn of phrase, some musical line will strike me and tears come to my eyes briefly as I conduct. Some moment in every performance will reach me, jaded old musician that I am, and it is like I am hearing it for the first time.

One of the recitatives always gets me, no matter who is singing, who is playing, or if I am performing or conducting. It is sung by the alto, thank goodness, and it is the recitative I didn't learn as a teenager. The text, taken from the Prophecy of Isaiah, tells what will happen when the Messiah comes:



*Then shall the eyes of the blind
be open'd,*

*And the ears of the deaf
unstopped.*

*Then shall the lame man
leap as an hart,*

*And the tongue of the dumb
shall sing.*

It so moves me, I think because it reminds me of my son, Russell, who has autism and who cannot speak. He loves music and he loves *Messiah*, having heard it every year since he was a small child. I like to think that recitative is meant for him and all the people like him. I am comforted to know, even in this great work, someone had thought enough to include this text, including those who are not often thought about. And I love it even more.

Marie Grass Amenta has taught music in public and private schools, served as director of choirs for churches, and led children's choirs in the Chicagoland area for many years. In 2006, Marie devoted her energies to forming a community chamber choir, filling a void in the Chicago Southland community. Marie still studies voice and occasionally sings in recitals, concentrating on quirky pieces for quirky sopranos! She is a champion of music inclusion and as the parent of a young man who has autism, knows the difference music makes in the lives of those who have challenges. Marie has spoken and written about music inclusion as well as using music as a tool for reaching those with disabilities.

Upcoming Music

✘

JANUARY 13
**Baptism of the
Lord**

✘

5:00pm Mass

Handbell Choir

8:30am Mass

Praise Team

10:30am Mass

Sanctuary Choir

Faith Formation

Teach and Live the Gospel

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

Marcus Cabrera, Youth Advocate
760-758-4100 x161
marcusc@stmoside.org

Sunday is a RE.A.CH day at Home

Next Church Session: Jan. 13

Check your Annual Plan for Home Sessions



The Youth Justice Foundation will be out on the plaza after all three Masses next weekend, January 12 & 13 with 4oz bars of fairly traded chocolate plus cocoa and coffee.

*Treat your taste buds,
Support economic justice, and
Encourage our Parish Teens!*



Parents . . . Parishioners

*Join us for the Catholicism Series
Sunday, January 13, 5:00-6:30pm*

Part 5: THE INDISPENSABLE MEN: PETER, PAUL, AND THE MISSIONARY ADVENTURE

Fr. Barron calls Peter and Paul two indispensable men, the ones without whom the church never would have emerged and survived. In telling each man's story, Fr. Barron shows how the Holy Spirit worked through all the apostles and disciples to build the Church.

Following the trail of these apostles as they took the Gospel to the ends of the earth, Fr. Barron presents the foundations of the apostolic faith, particularly the revelation of Christ's resurrection from the dead.

The Epiphany

We all get that "ah-ha" moment in our lives, be it through experience or age, that makes us better people. Although, we then fruitlessly desire our naïve self to *epiphany-ize* before the moment that caused us to.



Of course, if one were to reevaluate, this is completely contradictory to the notion of getting an "ah-ha" moment in the first place. This irrationality is called regret.

But...

- * The Epiphany is the discovery of the Savior born in our lives.
- * The Epiphany is that God is always with us, that God is even within us.
- * The Epiphany is that worship was made entirely for us and that it adds nothing to God's greatness.
- * The Epiphany is that this entire Christian body exists for you.
- * The Epiphany is that your faith is something to wield, own, grow, and share.

If you have come to this "ah-ha" moment in your faith, then here are some things to make it grow:

Monday Night Youth Group: 7:00-8:30pm

Make your faith become "real" in your high school, and find the support to live as Christ would want. Although youth group is catered to high school, many of our young adults come to help and engage.

Wednesday Youth Prayer Hour: 5:30-6:30pm (Blessed Sacrament Chapel)

Discover your spiritual voice and become spiritually strong. High school and young adults are welcome!

College Night-Out: 7:00pm-

We are teaming up with the young adults of Mission San Luis Rey! See the Parish calendar for dates because you don't want to miss these multi-Parish events. We will carpool from STM to MSLR at about 6:45pm. This is for college-age people only!

Thursday Bible Study: 4:00-5:30pm

We will begin a three-week intensive study on the Book of Tobit. Please look to the Parish calendar for dates. We will explore many of the lesser-known Old Testament stories and discover our love for Sacred Scripture. All high school and young adults are invited!

—Marcus Cabrera

PBJ Update

(Food for children at the Emergency Crisis Center)



2013 GOAL: 365 jars
Collected to date: 31 jars



Stewardship & Development

Serve God's People

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

Christian Stewardship

Epiphany: To Find Our Meaning in Christ

Epiphany! What a wonderful word. Even its secular definition is thrilling: “a sudden realization about the nature or meaning of something.”

It brings all sorts of images to mind: a light bulb suddenly turning on, shedding brilliant illumination; a revelation that brings a gasp; an idea so vivid we pause and give thanks; a truth so powerful we fall to our knees.

The feast of the Epiphany is all of those things and more. We celebrate the mysterious appearance at Jesus’ birthplace of three men from the East. They had set off on a most quixotic journey, seeking what they would find at the end of a star’s dazzling rays.

What, we wonder, did they make of the epiphany with which their journey ended? Did they spend the rest of their lives trying to discern what their discovery of the baby meant, or did the Christ Child gift them with “a sudden realization” of His nature?

—ICSC Parish Stewardship, January 2013 (with permission)



Making All Things New in Stewardship

What is this way of life

This putting God first in all things,

This proportionate giving of everything unto the Lord,

This conviction that all is gift, we but trustees not owners,

This refusal to take more than we need?

Yesterday I met a flock of them, these stewards,

Gathered to thank God for his providential love

And tell again and again of the joy and peace of giving.

It wasn't the words that touched me,

Rather the quiet assurance that things were ordered,

Time, talent, treasures aligned rightly with Transcendence,

All coming from Love, lived in Love, and directed toward Love.

What touched me was the rightness of this way of life,

This joyful giving, this sacrificial attitude, this sublime joy.

—Most Rev. Robert F. Morneau, Diocese of Green Bay, Wisconsin

*May we always be joyful as we return
God's gifts in gratitude.*

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Planned Giving is a generic term that covers the many ways an individual can give to a charity while, in many cases avoiding taxes. A few examples of Planned Giving are: Designated Beneficiary Accounts, Wills, Living Trusts, Stocks, Life Insurance, Mutual Funds, Endowments, and Real Estate.

This program is one way of helping the Parish raise the resources necessary to continue our campus build out and also help plan for our future needs (i.e., Tower of Faith participants). Gifts of this nature are beneficial and much appreciated by St. Thomas More.

For more information please contact:

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

“... A Time To Build!”

**includes our Faith journey as well
as the build out of our Parish Campus.**

Collection for Week of December 29/30, 2012

Number of Registered Households		1,039
Offertory*	\$	4,897.14
Offertory (Loose Collection)		1,218.00
Children's envelopes		5.00
Total	\$	6,120.14

* 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 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.

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.

San Diego Habitat for Humanity Providing Homes for Wounded Veterans—For more information, contact Sheyna Hensley at 619-283-4663 x314 or ShaynaH@sdhfh.org.

After-Abortion Healing Retreat for Catholic Women (or Catholic Friendly)—January 11-13, St. Mary Retreat Center in Escondido. Given by Rachel's Hope. For more information, contact Leslie Brunolli at 760-745-2529 or LBrunolli@yahoo.com or www.RachelsHope.org.

Foster Children Need Advocates—Voices for Children is looking for volunteers to be Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs). Information meetings on January 8 and 16. For more information, call 858-598-2235 or visit www.speakupnow.org.

Anglican/Roman Catholic "Day of Dialogue"—Saturday, January 19, 9:00am, Diocesan Pastoral Center, 3888 Paducah Dr., San Diego. For more information, contact 858-487-4317

News from St. Francis Church

Electronic Recycling Event—January 19-20. For details and questions, contact ptg@sfs-vista.org.

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 soon.

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 Parishioners

North County Magnificat Women's Group—Saturday, January 19, 8:00am-12:00noon, St. Gabriel Church, Poway. Speaker will be Mark Price. For more information, contact Elise Botch at 858-436-4946.

Fifteenth Annual Divine Mercy Conference—February 8-9, San Juan Diego Center at Mission San Antonio De Pala, 3015 Mission Rd., Pala. For more information, contact 619-276-6637 or www.SDdivinemercy.org.

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, 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 Divorce Healing Ministry of St. Luke's Parish invites those going through a separation and divorce to a 12-week program of recovery entitled, *The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide*. Our support group meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, from 7-9 p.m. at the Church of St. Luke, 1980 Hillsdale Rd., El Cajon, CA 92019. You can start and end the series at any time. No charge. Seating limited; call to reserve your place with us: 619-401-6445.

The Bishops' Letter on Marriage—Helpmates: "Marriage is a unique communion of persons. In their intimate union as male and female, the spouses are called to exist for each other. Just as Genesis describes Eve as a helper for Adam, we can see that in marriage, a husband and wife are meant to help each other through self-giving." To read the document go to <http://www.usccb.org/laity/loveandlife/>.

Marriage Moments—(Epiphany) "Behold, Magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem." (Mt 2:2), On this feast of the Epiphany, the wise still seek Jesus. What gifts of wisdom do you possess? A lesson learned from your childhood? A proverb that steers your life? A virtue to which you've struggled to be true? by Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net.

Parenting Pointers—Did your child receive a lot of toys for Christmas? Probably. This is an opportunity to help your child learn gratefulness and generosity. Introduce your child to the "one in - one out" principle of living simply. Invite them to give a previous toy away. by Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net

For more information, visit [www.diocese-sdiego.org/Ministries/Marriage & Family Life](http://www.diocese-sdiego.org/Ministries/Marriage%20&%20Family%20Life) or call Jen Frost at 760-758-4100 x100.



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Parish Contacts

Updated 12/12/2012

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

Pastoral Council Committees

Faith Formation & EvangelizationRory Griffin 760-414-3939

- Religious Education (Adults)..... Kathleen Bell 760-758-4100 x110
- Small Church Communities Sondra Parks 760-598-1269
- Little Rock Bible Studies Pauline Lapre 760-727-8339
- 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 Marcus Cabrera 760-758-4100 x161
- High School Youth Ministry Marcus Cabrera 760-758-4100 x161
- Women's Ministry/Fellowship..... Shannon Oswald 760-889-1469
- Men's Fellowship..... Dcn. John Fredette 760-758-4100 x132
- Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs..... Regina Aulisio 760-295-5530
- Vocations Deacon Tom & Patt Goeltz 760-727-8442
- RCIA..... Kathleen Bell 760-758-4100 x110

LiturgyKathy Arciero 760-231-1022

- Altar Linen Care Anna Meyers 760-727-4998
- Art & Environment Kathy Arciero 760-231-1022
- Bereavement Facilitator Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131
- 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
- Sick & Homebound (*Eucharist*). Jean McCloskey 760-758-4100 x100

Marriage & Family Life Jen Frost 858-692-7438

- ACTTS Young Adults Jen Frost 858-692-7438
- Family Services..... Rev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100
- Marriage Preparation..... Rev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100
- Widows & Widowers of North County..... Carol Kope 760-726-0533
- Germaine Wilmott 760-758-9949

Parish Organizations & Events..... Lisa & Pat Attardo 760-940-1505

- Historian..... Brandon Oswald 760-845-5450
- Knights of Columbus Jim Baker 760-726-2807
- Social Activities Henny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100
- Spirited Seniors..... Judy & Jerry Buoniconti 760-758-5113
- St. Thomas More Gala Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120
- Treasures Flea Market..... John & Wendy Murphy 760-497-6117
- Walking Ministry Diane Pal 760-815-2519
- Women's Guild Vera Bayliss 760-295-0059

Social Ministries Cherie & Greg Abrahms 760-598-6776

- Blood Drive..... Linda Dicus 760-726-5081

- Brother Benno's Collections..... Deacon Tom Goeltz 760-727-8442
- Mike Nichols 760-822-3664
- Brother Benno's Kitchen Servers George Jones 760-940-9288
- Christmas Angel Ministry..... John & Marti Harper 760-724-1181
- Culture of Life Jane Kelleher 760-822-7041
- CPR/AED Classes..... Phil Goscienski 760-732-1414
- Disability Facilitation Ann Eriksson 760-599-7151
- Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice
- Joyce Meehan 760-724-4974
- Jail Ministry Rita McCarthy 760-758-4100 x100
- JustFaith..... Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131
- Cathy Blecki 760-603-8930
- More's Workers..... Cherie & Greg Abrahms 760-598-6776
- North County Solutions for Change (NCSC)
- Kevin & Lyn Leahy 760-643-0872
- Prayer Request Line..... Pat Wong 760-806-1310
- Norma Flanagan 760-630-0180
- Project Linus..... Mary Coxon 760-599-8760
- San Diego Organizing Project (SDOP)
- Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131
- Social Justice Committee..... Henri Black 760-758-8137
- St. Bonaventure Mission..... Dick Belprez 760-295-1431

Office Support..... Henny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100

- General Support..... Henny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100
- Chair Set-Up..... Lorraine Doering 760-758-4100 x102
- Kitchen Overseer Agne Bolsakov 760-473-8461

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 Valerie Thompson 760-630-1703
- Planned Giving Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120
- Publicity/Public Relations..... Jane Gladden 760-659-6168
- Sacrificial Giving/Tithing Paul Ibbetson 760-734-1051
- Scrip Sales Mike Nichols 760-727-7522
- Andrea Sweeney 760-216-6389
- Stewardship Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120
- Vehicle Donations..... Diana Diaz 760-758-4100 x100
- Welcome Ministry Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120

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Deacon Tom Goeltz.....	760-758-4100 x100	thomasg@stmoside.org
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Chris Smith, Director of Stewardship and Development	760-758-4100 x120	chriss@stmoside.org
Joe Garcia, Director of Maintenance	760-758-4100 x151	joeg@stmoside.org
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Natalie Provinse, Bookkeeper.....	760-758-4100 x104	nataliep@stmoside.org
Lorraine Doering, Parish Office Technician.....	760-758-4100 x102	lorrained@stmoside.org
Brian Leahey, Director of Construction.....	760-758-4100 x152	brianl@stmoside.org

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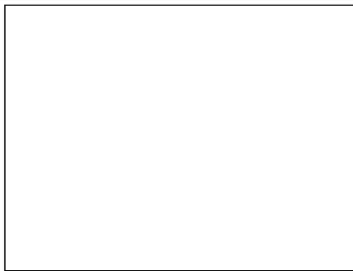
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Bringing the Celebration Home: Epiphany

What is Epiphany?

Epiphany, meaning “reveal” or “to show oneself”, is the day the three kings visited Jesus and acknowledged Him as our Savior. Epiphany is traditionally celebrated on January 6th – exactly 12 days after Christmas. In the United States, it is celebrated to the Sunday between January 2nd and January 8th. Tradition gives the kings the names Melchior, Balthazar and Casper. They brought with them very specific gifts to present to our Lord. Gold was – and is! - a valuable, frankincense was an expensive perfume, and myrrh was a common anointing oil.

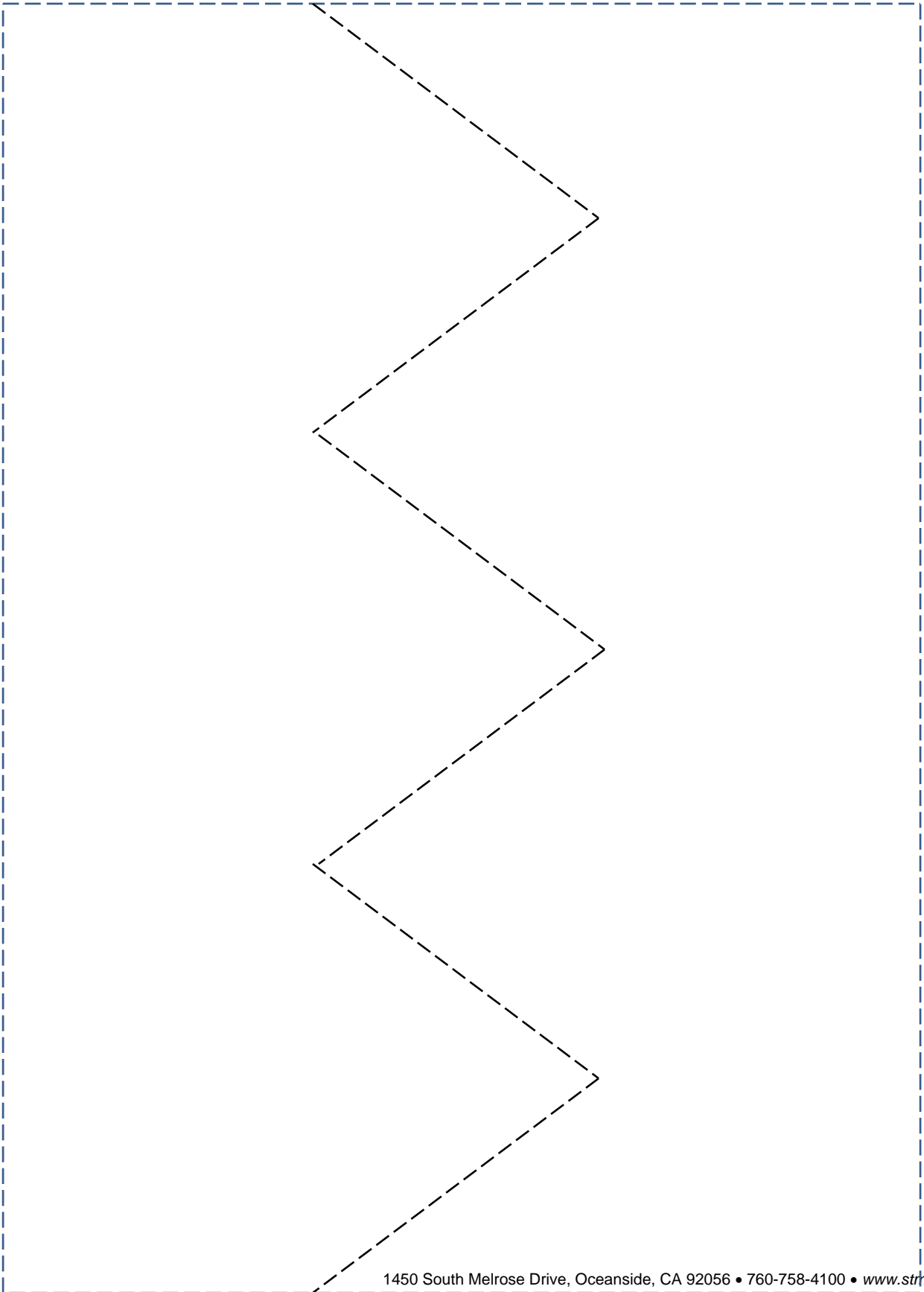
“When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy; and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.” Matthew 2:10-12

Celebrate it at Home!

- **Make a Kings Cake** A traditional Kings Cake is made in a ring, reflecting the shape of a crown. Make an easy “cake” for your family – all you need are two pack of unbaked cinnamon rolls (the kind that come in the tube in your grocer’s refrigerator section) and food coloring!

To make, open the cinnamon roll packs and divide the dough into three piles. Roll each pile into a long roll, and – once all three are rolled into a “snake” shape, braid the “snakes”. Form the braid into a ring, and bake. Once it cools, open the icing included in the tube and divide it, too, into three bowls. Using the food coloring, color one with yellow (gold), white (frankincense), and brown (myrrh).
- **Create Crowns** Make a crown for everyone in the family! On the back of this sheet is a basic template for you to use. Cut out along the dotted lines, decorate with crayons, markers, glitter, or anything else you like. Tape the two pieces together and enjoy!
- **Bless Your Home** Bless your home by writing (with chalk) the year with the letters C M B (“Christus Mansionem Benedicat”, or “Christ Bless This House”) on the top of the doors like this: 20+C+M+B+13. The first and last two numbers reflect the current year. Fun fact: the letters C M B also represent the first initial of the kings!
- **Pray Together** “O God, Who by the guidance of a star didst this day reveal Thine only-begotten Son to the Gentiles, mercifully grant that we, who know Thee now by faith, may be so led as to behold with our eyes the beauty of Thy majesty. Through the same Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lived and reigned with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God, world without end. Amen.” (From the Mass of St. Pius V)





are you
deeply
concerned
about our
world?

Engaging Spirituality

Live deeply. Love broadly.



ARE YOU THIRSTY FOR GOD
AND HUNGRY FOR JUSTICE IN
THE WORLD? *Do you long to be
contemplative and compassionate?*

While many in our world are starved of adequate nourishment, respect, and dignity, we all hunger to live deep and meaningful lives. *Engaging Spirituality* is a prayerful small-group journey that invites us to draw the world—with all its beauty and brokenness—down into ourselves, to hold it in prayer together, and to practice living deeply and loving broadly.

Weekly sessions will be held on Wednesday evenings beginning January 30.

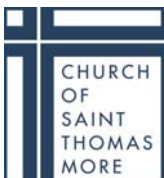
Please save **Saturday, February 6 or 23**, for a day-long retreat.

To sign up, contact Sr. Maureen at 760-758-4100 x131 *as soon as possible* or by January 10 at the latest.

The cost of the materials (four books and a journal) is \$88 for this 22-week program.

Please do not let monetary concerns keep you from signing up—partial scholarships are available.

We are looking for one more co-facilitator. The materials are user friendly and training and mentors are available.



1450 SOUTH MELROSE DRIVE • OCEANSIDE, CA 92056 • 760.758.4100
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Church of St. Thomas More



NUCCI'S

ITALIAN CAFE

Tues. January 8th & Wed. January 9th, 2012

for lunch or dinner and 20%

of your food and beverage

purchases will be donated to the

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**1 *All participants must purchase a beverage with their meal in order to receive credit towards the organization. 2. Under no circumstances are flyers to be handed out in the restaurant, parking lot or vicinity. Failure to comply will result in a voided contract. 3. Coupons or discounts will not be honored in conjunction with any approved Fun-Raiser.
4. Must present this flyer at the time of purchase.**