

**SAINT
THOMAS
MORE
CATHOLIC
CHURCH**

*If your brother or sister listens to you,
you have won them over.*

Matthew 18:15



*A Roman Catholic Parish
in the Diocese of San Diego*

- ✠ Spirituality
- ✠ Tradition
- ✠ Community

Mass Schedule

Saturday at 5:00pm
Sunday at 8:30am and 10:30am
Monday-Friday at 8:15am

Eucharistic Adoration

Monday-Friday, 6:30am-7:30pm

Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturday, 4:00-4:30pm

Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor
Rev. Karl Bauer, Senior Priest
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



**Humanitarian Collection
for the Middle East**

See page 9 for details on how to
help our Catholic brothers and
sisters who are suffering.

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time September, 2014

Update on Bishop Flores

*The message below was sent to all of the priests of the Diocese from
the Office of Monsignor Steven Callahan on September 3:*

We have learned through Archbishop Gomez that Bishop Flores has been diagnosed with cancer of unknown origin, but it is mainly in his bones. The cancer is widespread, very advanced and very aggressive. Unfortunately, Bishop Flores is not a candidate for chemotherapy because of his very weak condition and the advanced stage of the disease.



On Friday, Bishop Flores will be moved from the hospital in Los Angeles to Nazareth House here, where he will have palliative care.

While priests, deacons, religious, and laity may wish to reach out to Bishop Flores during this difficult time, it is in his best interest and better for his care and well-being that we not try to contact Bishop Flores by phone nor attempt to visit him.

Let us continue to keep Bishop Flores in our prayers.



Pastor's Column

Rev. Michael Ratajczak
760-758-4100 x100

Prayer of Dedication

Special thanks to Bill Ipsen, the Finance Council Parish Liaison, who spoke before all the Masses this weekend to give us a financial update on our construction project.

Excitement continues to build as he shared with us our accomplishments and our challenges as we move forward to complete the building of our Church and Parish Offices.

I hope that all of you will take time to read and reflect on the transcript of his talk which is included as an insert in this week's bulletin.

In a few days, all Parishioners will receive a "love letter" from me asking that you consciously and prayerfully decide to make a three year commitment to our Operations Budget and the Mortgage/Building Completion Fund.

Your cooperation in this will greatly help the Finance Council in planning finances over the next three years!

As our dreams continue to become reality, I encourage you to pray for the success of our project. We must place all in God's hands.

I invite you to pray this Prayer of Dedication on a regular basis. It is the prayer that the Bishop will pray as the altar in our Church will be consecrated:

(Continued on page 2)

Pastor's Column *(continued from page 1)*

Father in heaven,
source of holiness and true purpose,
it is right that we praise and glorify your name.

For today we come before you
to dedicate to your lasting service
this house of prayer,
this temple of worship,
this home in which we are nourished
by your word and your sacraments.

Here is reflected the mystery of the Church.

The Church is fruitful,
made holy by the blood of Christ:
a bride made radiant with his glory,
a virgin splendid in the wholeness of her faith,
a mother blessed through the power of the Spirit.

The Church is holy,
your chosen vineyard:
its branches envelop the world,
its tendrils, carried on the tree of the cross,
reach up to the kingdom of heaven.

The Church is favored,
the dwelling place of God on earth:
a temple built of living stones,
founded on the apostles
with Jesus Christ its cornerstone.

The Church is exalted,
a city set on a mountain:
a beacon to the whole world,
bright with the glory of the Lamb,
and echoing the prayers of her saints.

Lord, send your Spirit from heaven
to make this church an ever-holy place,
and this altar a ready table for the sacrifice of Christ.

Here may the waters of baptism overwhelm the shame of sin;
here may your people die to sin
and live again through grace as your children.

Here may your children, gathered around your altar,
celebrate the memorial of the Paschal Lamb,
and be fed at the table of Christ's word and Christ's body.

Here may the prayer, the Church's banquet,
resound through heaven and earth
as a plea for the world's salvation.

Here may the poor find justice,
the victims of oppression, true freedom.

From here may the whole world,
clothed in the dignity of the children of God,
enter with gladness your city of peace.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

F. n. Mike

Welcome New Parishioners

Donald Hanley
Nhat & Hue Nguyen & Family
Barbara Ann Packer-Connell & Joshua Packer & Family

Congratulations to

Bob & Dotty Petruzzo
who celebrate their 66th wedding anniversary September 8.
*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:

William Robert Daniels III, who died on August 21.
His Vigil will be on Wednesday, September 10, at
7:00pm and his Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Thursday,
September 11, at 11:00am at St. Thomas More. Please keep his
family in your prayers.

Robert Falconer, who died on August 28. His Funeral Services
will be celebrated on Saturday, September 27, at 11:00 at
St. Thomas More. Please keep his family in your prayers.

Daniel McKeon, who died on August 29. His Funeral Mass will
be celebrated in Santa Monica. Please keep his family in your
prayers.

Florence Crull, who died recently. Her funeral services were
held out of town. Please keep her family in your prayers.

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

Fully Catholic?

If you've been coming to Mass for a while, but are not Catholic,
we invite you to look deeper into the Catholic faith. Come meet
some faithful Catholics who love the Lord and would consider it a
privilege to get to know you.

Our Parish offers sessions that give you the opportunity to share
with others the truths of the Catholic faith and the fellowship of
our church family.

We invite you to learn what Catholics believe in an open and
welcoming environment. These sessions also are opportunities for
you to ask those perplexing and difficult questions you may have
about the Church.

Sessions are held Sunday mornings.

To find out how to get started, contact Kathleen Bell at 760-809-
6526 or 80bell80@gmail.com.

STM \$crip News

Thanks to all who support the Scrip program! A percentage of
every Scrip gift card purchased benefits our Parish Mortgage/
Building Completion Fund. Stop by the Scrip table on the plaza
after weekend Masses or the Parish Office during the week to
purchase/order Scrip or find out more about the program.

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.*

Readings for the Week Ahead

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

Sunday, September 7 (127)
Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Ezekiel 33:7-9
Psalm 95:1-2,6-9
Romans 13:8-10
Matthew 18:15-20
Monday, September 8 (636)
Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Micah 5:1-4a
Psalm 13:6abc
Matthew 1:1-16,18-23
Tuesday, September 9 (438)
Peter Claver, priest
1 Corinthians 6:1-11
Psalm 149:1b-6a,9b
Luke 6:12-19
Wednesday, September 10 (439)
1 Corinthians 7:25-31
Psalm 45:11-12,14-17
Luke 6:20-26
Thursday, September 11 (440)
1 Corinthians 8:1b-7,11-13
Psalm 139:1b-3,13-14b,23-24
Luke 6:27-38
Friday, September 12 (441)
Most Holy Name of the Blessed Virgin Mary
1 Corinthians 9:16-19,22b-27
Psalm 84:3-6,12
Luke 6:39-42
Saturday, September 13 (442)
John Chrysostom, bishop, doctor
1 Corinthians 10:14-22
Psalm 116:12-13,17-18
Luke 6:43-49
Sunday, September 14 (638)
Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Numbers 21:4b-9
Psalm 78:1b-2,34-38
Philippians 2:6-11
John 3:13-17

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

Changa Aguilera
Mary Alexander
Charlotte Atkinson
Carrie Autrey
Joshua Avery
Jose Luis Barbosa
Clarice Bednarz
John Bennici
Regina Bentz
Lisa Berg
Roseanne Berg
Elaine Berquist
Mary Betz
Betty Jean Bielich
Beth Brewer
Janet Brown
Todd Brown
Katie Browne
Jack & Mary Bruzas
Anita Buerger
Tony Calderone
Shelby Campbell
Brianna Campos
Aria Cappeluti
Baby Caroline
Iannone Martin Castro
The Vaughn Clevenger Family
The Cobian Family
Sylvia Christine Coffee
Dolly Cole
Carl, Dorothy, & James Coleman
Elaine Collins
Carol Costa
Steven Cresencia
Lené Crowe
The Crull Family
Karen Flaharty Daley
The Daniels Family
Beverly de Gelder
Hugo Delgado, Jr.
Christine DeSantis
Cecilia DeSimone
Carole Dillon
Edward Dolnik
Art & Dave Dossman
John Drazkowski, Jr.
La Vonne Dumas
Carolyn Erickson Ey
Rick Espinosa
The Falconer Family
Sally Fay
Victoria Lopez Fenton
The Fiore Family
First United Methodist Church/Napa
Mary Fleming
Bishop Cirilo Flores
Ryan Flum
Ernie Follis
Eugene Franciscus
Kathryn Franklin
Joe Freire
The Greg French Family
Jim Gallagher
The Joe Garcia Family
Kathy Gardner
Lois & Len Garth
Jack & Marge Gillen
Eric Gilliland
Wendy Gonzales' Dad
Rick Gonzalez
Wade Griggs
George Gritt
Luke Guenst
Pat & Tom Hannon
The Harker Family
Mark Harlin
Dorothy Harrison
The Hartdegen Family
Barbara Hatem
Heidi Heaton
Lilian Hills
William Hokama
Samara Hook
Susan Hori
Iolanda Iacobelli
Linda Iacobelli Bennett
Natalie Johnson
Laura Kater
Dottie Kearney
Connor Kerzie
Peggy Kiernan
Shirley & Mel Kimmel
Tana King
Debbie Kinney
Mark Kneisel
Dewey Kolbo
Tony Korwin
Helén Kuhn
Lillian Lachance
The Lamelin Family
Bernie Lanzrath
Mike Lavis
Brandon LeBlanc
Jeremiah Lemus
David Leué
The Paul Leué Family
Ashley Load
Shirley Loggins
Cassandra & Lauren Loretto
Jack Lucarelli
Joaquin Maldonado
The Maldonado Family
The Maldonado Trejo Family
Paige Mansell
Alexander Mathews
Chandler May
The McKeon Family
Caryl McKinney
Bob McWilliams
Joyce Meehan
Kalei Mendiola
Bill Metzger
Phyllis Minaya
June Mitchell
Nancy Moore
Elizabeth Muehlbacher
Conrad Murphy
Margie Myers
Nida Navarro
Richard Obsitnik
Ethan Palm
Perry Postulka
Douglas Price-Williams
The Joe Prokop Family
Barbara Ramm
Jan Riley
Connie Ringel
Rita Ritchie
Ann Roberds
Lily Robinson
Maria Rogers
Dorothy Rouse
The Russo Family
Rachel Sainc
Cindy Sanelli
Linda Schmidt
Joan Shea
Judy Smith
Nick Soltau
Drew & Jeanette Spangler
Darek, Vanessa, & Elba Spizewski
Patricia St. Pierre
Sybil Staples
Pete Sullivan
Julie Teare
Sarah Tillinghast
William Tompson
Stephen Toth, Jr.
Olivia Trejo
The Trejo/Beltran Family
The Trejo/Maldonado/Uribe Family
Barbara Upson
Lucy Vienna
Vanessa Vitiello
Wilson Wanner
Kevin Watson-Graff
Paul West
John Whitton
Carmen Wolf
Patricia Zavala
Jeanne Zeltner

Calendar Highlights

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

Sep 7 Liturgy of the Word for Children at 8:30am Mass
Sep 7 RE.A.CH Classes at Church
Sep 17 Bible Timeline
Sep 19 All About Eyes Class
Sep 21 RE.A.CH Classes at Church
Sep 28 Knights of Columbus Breakfast
Oct 4 Treasures Rummage Sale
Oct 11-12 Women's Guild Bake Sale
Oct 10-12 Men's Retreat
Oct 25 L!feWalk at Mission Bay
Nov 1-30 Stewardship Awareness/Renewal
Nov 8 Women's Retreat Day
Nov 23 Stewards' Appreciation Reception
Nov 23 Music Ministry Concert
2015
Jan 4 Twelfth Night Choral Festival
Jan 24 Women's Prayer Breakfast
Mar 1 New Member Reception
May 1 STM Gala
Jun 22-26 Vacation Bible Camp

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 6, 5:00pm
Deceased members of the Tutino & La Velle Families ☩
Sunday, September 7, 8:30am
Rodolfo Martinez ☩
Sunday, September 7, 10:30am
Robert & Jim Hale ☩
Monday, September 8, 8:15am
Emmett Murray ☩
Tuesday, September 9, 8:15am
Donna Doherty ☩
Wednesday, September 10, 8:15am
James & Esther Webb ☩
Thursday, September 11, 8:15am
Joe Sullivan ☩
Friday, September 12, 8:15am
Joanne Shlemmer
Saturday, September 13, 5:00pm
Rose Keeffe ☩
Sunday, September 14, 8:30am
Ivanno Villa ☩
Sunday, September 14, 10:30am
Patricia Leahey ☩

Deployed Military

Gunnery Sgt. Fernando Andrade, Jr.
1st Lt. Jeffrey Bauer, USMC
PFC John Brandone
Lt. Devon Czarzasty
Corp. Willie Deel
Chaplain Van Dinh
Lance Corp. Brandon Doyle, USMC
Capt. Branden M. Felker, USAF
Patrick G. Felker, USN
Grant Fischer
MSGT Steve Gallegos, USMC
Sgt. Alex Garcia
PFC Thomas Gillen, US Army
PFC Samuel Haro, US Army
PFC Cody Madere
Pvt. 2 Jess Phillips, US Army
Nicole Rieger, US Navy
Sr. Airman Robert Spear, USAF
Sgt. Charles Watts, 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.

September 8	Sr. Maria Javier Guzman, DCJ
September 9	Sr. Margaret Hama, DMI
September 10	Sr. Joyce Hampel, CSJ (deceased)
September 11	Sr. Celeste Hanigan, OSF
September 12	Sr. Yvonne Hanke, OCD
September 13	Sr. Barbara Hanna, DMI
September 14	Sr. Patricia Hanson, CSJO

Social Ministries & Outreach

Baby Bottle Drive for Birth Choice

...our local pregnancy resource center, continues. Pick up a baby bottle, fill it with your donation, and return it to the collection bin on the plaza by September 7. For more information, contact Jane Kelleher at 760-822-7041.

Faith Encounters the Ecological Crisis

Are you concerned about the forces that are threatening the ecological systems in which we live? Would you like to learn more about the challenges we face in caring for our mother earth?

Beginning the week of September 15, the group will meet once a week for eight weeks. This JustFaith module was designed as a community learning process built around the book, *Living Beyond the End of the World, A Spirituality of Hope*, by Margaret Swedish.



Registration is closed for this session, but another session is planned for January 2015.

If you are interested, please contact Sr. Maureen at maureenb@stmoside.org or 760-758-4100 x131.

All About Eyes Class at STM

Anyone experiencing visual problems and desiring more information on resources that can be beneficial will get answers to many questions regarding visual impairments and eye health from a class facilitated by the Braille Institute on Friday, September 19, 1:00-2:00pm. You do not have to be visually disabled to take this class. For more information or to sign up, contact Ann Eriksson at 760-599-7151.

Brother Benno's Toiletry/New Underwear Drive

Got toiletries? Got NEW underwear? We will be holding our annual drive to help the homeless and needy on September 20-21 before all Masses. Look for Deacon Tom and his truck in the parking lot. Please be generous as always. As Christians, we are all called to help those less fortunate, and this is one way you can help. Thank you and God Bless.

St. Bonaventure Clothing Drive (November 8-9)

For 20 years St. Thomas More Catholic Church has been providing gently used clothing and blankets to the Navajo Indians served by St. Bonaventure Mission in New Mexico. We are the ONLY dedicated drive helping the Mission in this manner and literally hundreds to in excess of a thousand benefit from your generosity each year. On November 8-9, we will be collecting clothing for all ages and sizes, shoes and work boots, and blankets to be taken to the Mission where almost all on the Reservation live below the poverty line and unemployment exceeds 68%. To help or to answer questions, contact Deacon Tom at thomasgoeltz@aol.com or 760-727-8442. Thank you! God Bless!

**Our Mission is to:
worship God,
teach and live the Gospel of Jesus Christ,
and serve God's people in word and deed.**

Marriage & Family Life

Moms & Kids—Moms! The Moms and Kids ministry is meeting on the third Monday of September at a local park, 10:00am-12:00noon. There are many other events within our community throughout the month posted on our private Facebook page. Join us! Contact Jen Abelson at jen.abelson@gmail.com.



Relationship Skills Workshop—Deacon Ralph and Peggy Skiano, of the Diocesan Marriage and Family Life Office are presenting Relationship Skills Workshops every Tuesday night at 7:00pm at Corpus Christi Parish Hall, 450 Corral Canyon Rd, Bonita, through November 18. Come and explore how to improve your relationships. You can attend one workshop, several, or all of them. The next workshop is September 9 and the topic is *Redefining the Power Struggle*.

Promoting Life, Marriage, and Religious Liberty—Join the Movement: Visit www.usccb.org/fast to sign the fasting pledge and to sign up for weekly e-mail reminders and intentions, or text "Fast" to 99000 to receive weekly text messages.

Bishop's Letter on Marriage—Marriage: Love and Life In The Divine Plan: Same-Sex Unions— "Marriage is a unique union, a relationship different from all others. It is the permanent bond between one man and one woman whose two-in-one-flesh communion of persons is an indispensable good at the heart of every family and every society. Same-sex unions are incapable of realizing this specific communion of persons. Therefore, attempting to redefine marriage to include such relationships empties the term of its meaning, for it excludes the essential complementarity between man and woman, treating sexual difference as if it were irrelevant to what marriage is." To read the document go to <http://www.usccb.org/loveandlife/>.

Marriage Encounter—Do you have a good marriage but want a little jumpstart? Would you and your spouse like to rediscover and reconnect with each other? Then we invite you to attend a Marriage Encounter Weekend. Weekends take place in San Diego and other Southern California locations throughout the year. For more information, visit www.wvme.org or contact Eddie and Sheila Murphy at 760-295-0008.

Marriage Moments—A trip down Memory Lane #5: In any evolving relationship there are times of rough edges. Can you remember the first serious disagreement or fight that you had before you were married? How did you resolve it? Is the general topic still one you struggle with? By Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net.

Parenting Pointers—You shall love your neighbor as yourself. (Romans 13:9) Do you know your immediate neighbors? Do any of them have special needs? Talk with your children this week about some favor you could do for a neighbor. Maybe invite them over for dinner. By Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net.

For more information, visit [www.diocese-sdiego.org/Ministries/Marriage and Family Life](http://www.diocese-sdiego.org/Ministries/Marriage%20and%20Family%20Life) or call Jen Frost at 858-692-7438.

Visit the Parish Website!
www.stmoside.org

Parish Events

Attention Men!

Year three of “That Man is You!—The Revelation of the Father” continues. The Revelation of the Father takes an honest look at the challenges facing fathers in modern culture, considers the reality of fatherhood, and discovers a mystery far deeper than a simple biological reality. TMIY integrates the latest medical science with the vision of St. Joseph presented in Scripture. The objectives of this program will be: Use the life of St. Joseph to discover the spiritual reality of fatherhood hidden beneath the biological reality. Show how God the Father lives his divine Fatherhood in and through human fathers. Identify the fury of Satan directed at fatherhood. Identify the challenges facing fatherhood today.

The topic for September 13 is “The Heart of the Father.”

To register on-line, go to www.thatmanisyou.org and click on the “Sign up!” button or contact Deacon John at johnf@stmoside.org or 760-758-4100 x104.

Women’s Guild News

The young-at-heart, creative, lively, dedicated ladies of the Guild invite you to share with them their friendship, luncheons, enjoyable programs, door prizes, raffles, and good times by becoming part of our Women’s Guild. Or have you already “done your duty” volunteering and earned your place as a senior member who deserves to be on the receiving end now? You belong in the Women Guild. It’s time for us to give back to you. Join the Women’s Guild. We are still taking registrations. Dues are \$10 for the year. and a form is available on the Parish website and in the office. You can drop it in the weekend collection basket, drop it off at the Parish Office, or just mail it in. We look forward to welcoming you.

Our first meeting is on Monday, September 8 at 11:00am. Cost of the delicious luncheon is the usual \$10, which includes entrée, drinks, and dessert (the best part). Check-in begins at 10:40am, so come early so we can begin the meeting on time. We start with a short business meeting, and then the fun begins. We need a count for lunch, so if you plan on coming, please contact Vera Bayliss, our hospitality chair at 760-295-0059 or vbayliss.cox.net. As part of the September meeting’s program Kathy Gerhard, Program Chair, plans a slide show review of last year’s activities and fundraisers. It’s sort of a “Where’s Waldo” to see if you can find yourself in the pictures. ☺

Have a grace filled week. —Ann Buko, president

Rosary

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



Vocations

In today’s Responsorial Psalm, we are told “If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.” This is applicable to all facets of life, including to prayerfully listening to God as he directs you to a vocation in life. If you hear God calling you to be a priest, deacon, or vowed religious, do not harden your heart. Rather, listen and prayerfully explore the possibility. Interested? Contact Deacon Tom at thomasgoeltz@aol.com or 760-727-8442.

Memorial Item Donations

Memorials are a way of honoring those whom we love, whether they are living or deceased. Often, memorials are made for a special intention or in thanksgiving for a variety of blessings received from God.

Our Parish Campus will be a living memorial. All who help in building it will leave something to the community itself that will be used by generations to come. The good they do is not interred with them, but will remain to share in the divine activity of God here on earth.

Listed below are items still available for adoption.

All contributions will be recognized in a special memorial to be displayed in our Parish Memorial Garden.

For more information or to adopt an item, contact Chris Smith
760-758-4100 x120 or chriss@stmoside.org

Pipe Organ	\$850,000
Memorial Garden	\$500,000
Reflection Garden	\$250,000
Church Doors (Bronze)	\$100,000
Crucifix	\$75,000
St. Thomas More Shrine (Tapestry)	\$75,000
Pew Seating for the Church (1,000) 840 available	\$300/person
Daily Mass Chapel and Choir Chairs (200) 130 available	\$300/each

09/02/14



For more information on our progress, visit our website, stmoside.org, and click on Our New Church.

STM Vehicle Donation Program

Do you have a vehicle you want to donate?
Call us, and we’ll have it picked up operational or not!

You get the tax deduction!

We can accept vehicles without current registration and can file for replacement title if it has been lost.

As of June 17 we have netted \$52,402 from this program. Thank you donors!



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

CPR

The St. Thomas More CPR program will offer several classes in Adult and Infant/Child CPR in September and October. For the first time this will include weekday afternoons and evenings. For details, visit the information table on the plaza, the Parish Office, or the Parish website.

Liturgy & Music *Worship God*

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

TRUE COLORS

by Patricia Datchuck
 Sánchez and Rafael
 Sánchez Alonso,
 from Celebration
 September 2014,
 with permission.

In those areas of the northern hemisphere that enjoy the four seasons, September brings with it a beautiful and spectacular phenomenon. As summer's heat wanes and the air becomes refreshingly cooler, the trees begin to shed their leaves, but not before offering a magnificent display of brilliant reds, flashy yellows, rich oranges, deep bronzes, and mahoganies. These vibrant hues are the actual colors of the leaves, which, for part of the year, are masked by the process of photosynthesis. In order to produce the food they need to grow and thrive, the leaves of a tree use the energy of the sun to synthesize food, one of the byproducts of which is chlorophyll, hence the green that we see in spring and summer. But in September, there are wonders to behold as true colors shine through and rich and varied foliage reminds us of the generous artistry of God.

Thus inspired by nature, we members of the praying assembly are challenged in September's sacred texts to hold ourselves up to the truth of God's word and allow our "true colors" to emerge and shine through, unencumbered by fear or sin.

On September 14, we see the true colors of Jesus shining through, clearly and poignantly, as the community celebrates the exaltation of his holy cross. That ancient sign of ignominy and death has become the sacred sign of life and salvation. To appreciate the unmistakable irony of such a feast, imagine venerating an electric chair, a hangman's noose, or a gas chamber. Each of these instruments of death evokes horror—and rightly so—but not Jesus' cross. God's love for sinners, given expression in Jesus' self-emptying death on the cross,

scripture themes for September

has made those two crossed bars a witness to the unbreakable bond between God and humankind, sealed forever by the blood of Jesus. Jesus' true colors call forth in us a willingness to respond daily and generously to the greatest love that ever was or will be.

That love has the power to cultivate in us an attitude of care for one another. In our care, we will lovingly, gently, and persistently confront a brother or sister who has fallen short of who they are to be and what they are to do. On September 7, Ezekiel, Paul, and the Matthean evangelist join their voices to tell us just that. We are our brother's keeper; we are the caretakers of our sister's well-being. We are God's gifts to one another, and our gratitude for such precious gifts inspires our authentic and selfless concern.

If we are open to God's overtures, God's love and grace can also prompt in us a desire and willingness to resist evil and embrace all that is good. On September 28, Ezekiel challenges us to daily conversion, without which we cease to grow. Those who do what is right and just shall live, said the prophet; those who choose inequity choose death.

As a complement to the prophet's challenge, Matthew offers the praying assembly the parable of the two sons. Each was asked by his father to go out and work in the vineyard. One said yes but did not go. The other initially refused but then *changed his mind and went*. His true colors and his love and loyalty for his father were revealed in his willingness to do his father's bidding. Jesus addressed this parable to the chief priests and elders of the people, thereby urging them to change their minds and believe in



Matthew 18:15

him. As this parable is proclaimed in our hearing, we, too, are prompted to allow the true colors of our belonging to Christ to shine through. In so doing, we witness to the God-given grace that enables us to change our minds, turn over a new leaf and heed God's gentle and, at times, not-so-gentle promptings.

With his Gospel on September 21, Matthew reminds us that God's ways and God's thoughts are so beyond the scope of the human imagination that they cannot be grasped unless God reveals them.

That revelation is embodied in the parable of the harvesters. All were hired at different hours; all nevertheless received the same pay. "Unfair!" we say, because we think in terms of merit rather than grace. We think we *deserve*.

Rather, we are the unworthy but blessed recipients of God's gracious and unmeasured love. In order for our true colors to shine forth, we must learn to appreciate the shocking generosity of God. We must also learn to be grateful for God's gifts and to rejoice in the fact that God lavishes gifts even on those whom we may think don't deserve them.

Ours is an astoundingly good and gracious God, whose love calls forth only our truest colors. Let these shine forth in us for all to see.

Upcoming Music



SEPTEMBER 14
**Exaltation of
 the Holy Cross**



5:00pm

Praise Team

8:30am

Tower Bells

10:30am

Sanctuary Choir

Faith Formation

Teach and Live the Gospel

Matt Franklin
Youth Advocate
760-758-4100 x161; mattf@stmoside.org

Debbie Fredette
Director of Faith Formation
760-758-4100 x110; debbief@stmoside.org

Family Faith Formation

Genesis **EDGEM**
High School
REACH BEGINS TODAY!!
GRADES 1-5
YOUNG ADULT



We Need You!
Answer the call
from Jesus and
help in
Faith
Formation

Expecting ??

Why not schedule your Baptismal appointment today before the arrival of your little one? Please contact the Faith Formation Office at 760-758-4100 x110 or debbief@stmoside.org for more information.



T3: The Teen Timeline Series
Revolutionizing teen and young adult Scripture Study. Facilitated by Mark Hart, nationally known Catholic speaker and author.
Begins Sunday September 7 at 6:30 pm.

Try Out Our New Guys & Girls Group

Join us every Wednesday night from 6:30-8:00pm for our "Guys & Girls" group. This is a great opportunity to build accountability, friendships, and find out our role as young men and women in the church and community. Bring a FRIEND and a snack to share.

Adult Faith Formation

SIGN UP TODAY!!



The Bible Timeline:
The Story of Salvation
Featuring Jeff Cavins
Beginning Wednesday
September 17 at
9:00am

For more information, contact
Patt Goeltz at pattg@stmoside.org
or contact Debbie in the
Faith Formation Office.

COMING SOON!

MOMNIPOTENT

Eight Feminine Strengths to Help You Find
Peace, Balance, and Joy in Motherhood

teens

ATTENTION 10TH GRADERS
Preparing for Confirmation 2015
KAMP KUPER RETREAT
SEPTEMBER 19-21, 2015

The deadline for paperwork is today!
Drop off your registration and payments
to the Faith Formation office

Questions? Contact Debbie at debbief@stmoside.org

DON'T MISS OUT!



High School
Youth Group
"LIFE NIGHT"
Monday
September 8
7:00-8:30pm
PIZZA, Worship,
and a Message.
Bring a bible
and friend!

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

A WAY TO GIVE ~ A WAY TO RECEIVE



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

"... A Time To Build!"
includes our Faith journey as well
as the buildout of our Parish Campus.

Collection for Week of August 30/31, 2014

Number of Registered Households		1,111
Offertory*	\$	6,302.45
Offertory (Loose Collection)		808.00
Children's envelopes		0.00
Total	\$	7,110.45

* 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).

"Did You Know" Collection August 2014
\$2,261.00

Restaurant Fundraisers August 2014
Nucci's \$306.79

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.

Be a Good Steward of Your Faith This Autumn

There's something wonderfully renewing about autumn, especially as it begins a new school year. It's all about new beginnings. Maybe it has something to do with new classrooms, new teachers, the great smell of brand new shoes, and the smooth touch of that new backpack.



We remember those feelings of starting again even if it's been years since we walked through the school house door, and even if we don't have our own children heading off to the classroom this fall. We still get that heady feeling of new possibilities in the crisp autumn air.

This is the perfect time to bring a sense of spiritual renewal to your life and to your family—the domestic church.

Autumn can truly bring out a new resolve to improve our lives as summer's freedom gives way to the structure of fall. For adults, faith formation classes and bible studies are just forming in our Parish. Check out the opportunities. With summer ending, many organizations are gearing up for new volunteers.

If new activities can be scheduled into your daily life, start scheduling in more quality time for prayer. Fall is the perfect time to begin a 34-week Ignatian retreat, because if you start in September, the retreat-in-real-life schedule will conform to the liturgical year.

For the children in your house, early to bed and early to rise means there may be more opportunities to be together for short prayer. Say a blessing at breakfast, or a brief morning offering as kids head out for the bus. Try to bring a more regular prayer schedule to your home. Pray with your children as you tuck them in, making the prayer personal and about the day's events.

Make a resolve this fall to bring Christ more prominently into your family's daily routine. Make the stewardship of your faith and family a commitment as autumn brings a sense of renewal.

—ICSC September 2014 e-Bulletin (with permission)

Another Beginning

*I will not wish thee riches nor the glow of greatness,
but that wherever thou go
some weary heart shall gladden at thy smile,
or shadowed life know sunshine for awhile.
And so thy path shall be a track of light,
like angel's footsteps passing through the night.*

—Words on a church wall in Upwaltham, England

News & Information from the Larger Church

MISSIO App for Smart Phones—Connects you to the Pope and his daily messages. Learn more at www.MissioApp.org/bulletin.

Iraqi Christian Relief Fund—Over 200,000 Iraqi Catholic Christians are being persecuted, and have been left homeless living in dire conditions. St. Peter Chaldean Church in El Cajon is soliciting donations to help our brothers and sisters in Iraq. Visit www.IraqiChristianReliefFund.org for more information.

Church Ministers Conference: Our Life Is Mission—Saturday, September 13, 9:00am-3:30pm, Cathedral Catholic High School, 5555 Del Mar Heights Rd., San Diego 92130. Keynote speaker is Patrick Coffin. Sponsored by the Diocese of San Diego Office for Evangelization and Catechetical Ministry.

Voice for Children “Starry, Starry Night” Gala—Saturday, September 13, 6:00pm-12:00am at San Diego Polo Club in Rancho Santa Fe. Benefits the foster children of San Diego County. For more information, visit www.ssn2014.org

Monthly Holy Hour for Priestly and Religious Vocations—Third Wednesday of each month (next is September 17), 7:30-9:00pm, Diocesan Pastoral Center, 3888 Paducah Dr., San Diego. For more information, contact Fr. Pedro Rivera at privera@diocese-sdiego.org or 619-291-7446.

Franciscan School of Theology Vision Series—Thursdays, September 18, October 16, and November 20, 7:00-8:00pm. Free lectures about the mission of the Franciscan Intellectual Tradition. For more information, contact Donna Foley at 760-547-1800 x224 or dfoley@fst.edu.

“Shaken Not Stirred” Musical Review—Sunday, September 28, 3:00pm, Broadway Theatre, 340 E. Broadway, Vista. Tickets are \$28 per person, includes appetizers, performance, and snacks. For more information, contact Claire at 760-295-6099.

Rachel’s Hope After-Abortion Healing Retreat for Women—October 3-5, Diocesan Pastoral Center, 3888 Paducah Dr., San Diego. For more information, contact Rosemary Benefield at 858-581-3022 or visit www.RachelsHope.org.

Culture of Life Family Services 5th Annual “Pro-Life Is Good” Gala and Auction—Saturday, October 4, 5:30-10:00pm, at the Rancho Bernardo Inn with keynote speaker Rick Santorum. For more information, contact 619-564-3307 or gala@colfs.org.

L!feWalk 2014—October 25—mark your calendars now. Plan to invigorate life by walking, sponsoring, or sponsoring a walker. More information at www.lplifewalk.com.

News from St. Francis Church

525 W. Vista Way, Vista • 760-945-8000 • stfrancis-vista.org

St. Francis School is our Parish School!—Families from St. Thomas More are extended the same benefits and rewards as St. Francis Parishioners, including:

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

Now Accepting Applications for 2014-2015

Birth Choice Fall Banquet and Auction: “Speaking the Truth in Love”—Saturday, October 25, 5:00-9:00pm., at the Carlsbad Sheraton with keynote speaker Michael of Life Training Institute. For more information, visit www.birthchoicedonors.net.

Catholic Charities Food Resource Center Has Volunteer Opportunities for YOU!—Drivers, Daily Food Packers, Intake Workers, and CalFresh (food stamp) Advocate. For information call Lisa DuMolt at 619-231-2828 x221.

Catholic Widows and Widowers of North County

Would you like to expand your social life and meet a group of interesting and friendly widowed people? For more information, call Carol Kope at 760-726-0533 or Gerri Wilmott at 760-758-9949. See the bulletin board on the lower level for our complete monthly calendar of social activities. RSVPs are required.

Young Adult Ministry Activities

Visit www.yamsd.org for complete information on events for young adults, including a retreat September 19-21 at Whispering Winds Retreat Center near Julian.

Also, search *Office of Young Adult Ministry* on Facebook.

Humanitarian Collection for the Middle East

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has proposed that collections be taken up to provide relief and pastoral support for our affected brothers and sisters in the Middle East.

Money given to the collection will be disbursed for humanitarian needs by Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and other Catholic agencies working in partnership with the local Church.

Collection funds will also support Church programs to aid persecuted Christians and for rebuilding needs of Catholic dioceses in the impacted areas.

In proposing this collection, Archbishop Kurtz, President of the USCCB, wrote, “Our Christian brothers and sisters and other innocent victims of the violence in the Middle East urgently need the assistance of the Catholic Community of the United States. Thank you for your support of this special collection and for your continued prayers for the victims of this crisis.”

If you would like to contribute to this fund, please place your donation in an envelope and label it “Middle East Collection.” You may do so any time until the end of October. We then will forward the money to Catholic Relief Services (CRS).

Missionary Cooperative Appeal

Fr. Antony Gaspar, a missionary from the Diocese of Dindigul in India, shared with us about their work and asked for our prayers and financial support on the weekend of August 16-17.

The envelopes attached to the bulletin recently may be returned any time before the end of September. Thank you for your prayers and generosity!



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

Parish Contacts

Updated 08/13/2014

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

Pastoral Council Committees

Religious Education/Faith Formation/Evangelization

-**Rory Griffin 760-414-3939**
- Religious Education for Adolescents & Children (R.E.A.CH)
 -Debbie Fredette 760-758-4100 x110
- Liturgy of the Word for Children..... Heidi Madden 760-529-2400
- Sacramental Preparation.....Debbie Fredette 760-758-4100 x110
 - RCIA..... Kathleen Bell 760-809-6526
- Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs..... Regina Aulisio 760-295-5530
- Youth Ministry..... Matt Franklin 760-758-4100 x161
 - High School Matt Franklin 760-758-4100 x161
 - Young Adults..... Matt Franklin 760-758-4100 x161
- Religious Education for Adults...Debbie Fredette 760-758-4100 x110
 - Bible Study..... Patt Goeltz 760-727-8442
 - Centering Prayer Mary Williams 760-758-4100 x100
 - Men’s Fellowship..... Dcn. John Fredette 760-758-4100 x132
 - Women’s Ministry Erin Barela 760-580-5659
 - Vocations Dcn. Tom & Patt Goeltz 760-727-8442

LiturgyKathy Arciero 760-231-1022

- Altar Linen CareAnna Meyers 760-727-4998
- Art & Environment Kathy Arciero 760-231-1022
- Bereavement Ministry..... 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
- Music Ministry.....Douglas Lynn 760-758-4100 x140

Marriage & Family Life Jen Frost 858-692-7438

- Bringing the Celebration HomeJen Frost 858-692-7438
- Diocesan Liaison..... Trish & Daryl Resplandor 626-733-3832
- Family Services..... Rev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100
- Marriage Preparation..... Rev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100
- Moms & Kids..... Jen Abelson 410-570-6962
 - Lia Haubert 949-322-6458
- Widows & Widowers of North County.....Carol Kope 760-726-0533
 - Germaine Wilmott 760-758-9949

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

- Annual Gala Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120
- Historian/Archives Brandon Oswald 760-845-5450
- Knights of Columbus Andrew Frost 858-245-6305
- Social ActivitiesHenny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100
- Spirited Seniors..... Jim & Marilyn Day 760-509-4545
- Treasures Rummage Sale..... John & Wendy Murphy 760-497-6117

- Walking MinistryDiane Pal 760-815-2519
- Women’s Guild..... Ann Buko 760-726-8831
- Social Ministries Cherie & Greg Abrahms 760-598-6776**
- Blood DriveLinda Dicus 760-726-5081
- Brother Benno’s CollectionDcn. Tom Goeltz 760-727-8442
- Brother Benno’s Kitchen Server George Jones 760-940-9288
- Christmas Angel Ministry..... Kevin & Lisa Seufert 760-732-5965
- CPR/AED Classes..... Phil Goscienski 760-732-1414
- Culture of LifeJane Kelleher 760-822-7041
- Disability Facilitation Ann Eriksson 760-599-7151
- Jail Ministry Rita McCarthy 760-758-4100 x100
- Prayer Request Line..... Pat Wong 760-806-1310
 - Norma Flanagan 760-630-0180
- Project Linus..... Mary Coxon 760-599-8760
- Social Justice Committee..... Henri Black 760-758-813
- Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice
 - Joyce Meehan 760-724-4974
- JustFaith Activities Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131
- San Diego Organizing Project (SDOP)
 - Craig & Mary Castle 760-727-3097
- Solutions for Change Kevin & Lyn Leahy 760-643-0872
 - Family Shoe Ministry Rick & Heidi Madden 760-470-4998
- St. Bonaventure Mission.....Dcn. Tom Goeltz 760-727-8442
- Youth Justice Foundation Cherie & Greg Abrahms 760-598-6776
- Office Support..... Henny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100**
- General SupportHenny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100
- Chair Set-UpLorraine Doering 760-758-4100 x102
- Kitchen Manager.....Rebecca Eyer 760-758-4100 x100
- Diocesan Pastoral Council Liaison Masako Streling 760-295-2594**

Development Council Committees

- Annual Catholic Appeal..... Flora Fallone 760-758-4100 x100
- New ConstructionBrian Leahey 760-224-1674
- Parish Membership Valerie Thompson 760-630-1703
- Planned Giving Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120
- Publicity/Public Relations..... Jane Gladden 760-659-6168
- Scrip SalesMike 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

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor	760-758-4100 x100	michaelr@stmoside.org
Rev. Karl Bauer, Senior Priest.....	760-758-4100 x133	karlb@stmoside.org
Dcn. John Fredette	760-758-4100 x132	johnf@stmoside.org
Dcn. Tom Goeltz	760-758-4100 x100	thomasg@stmoside.org
Sr. Maureen Brown, Pastoral Associate.....	760-758-4100 x131	maureenb@stmoside.org
Dcn. John Fredette, Business Manager.....	760-758-4100 x104	johnf@stmoside.org
Debbie Fredette, Director of Faith Formation.....	760-758-4100 x110	debbief@stmoside.org
Matt Franklin, Youth Advocate	760-758-4100 x161	mattf@stmoside.org
Stacey Griffin, Faith Formation Office Assistant	760-758-4100 x110	staceyg@stmoside.org
Douglas Lynn, Director of Liturgy and Music.....	760-758-4100 x140	douglasl@stmoside.org
Kathy Santy, Assistant Music Director.....	760-758-4100 x100	kathys@stmoside.org
Sally Fay, Organist/Choir Accompanist	760-758-4100 x100	sallyf@stmoside.org
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
Henny Jocelyn, Receptionist/Secretary.....	760-758-4100 x100	hennyj@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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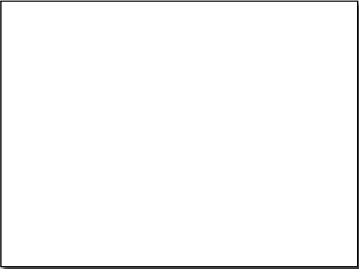
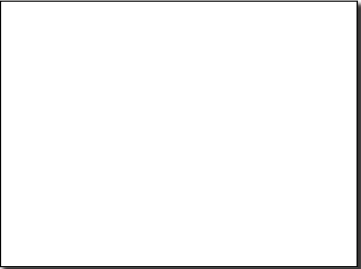
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Transcript of Construction and Finance Update

September 6-7, 2014

by Bill Ipsen

Good Morning,

I'm Bill Ipsen representing the St. Thomas More Finance Council, with a construction and finance update.

Before I begin, I would like to ask everyone to please stand....Now if you will turn toward the back and look through the windows at the construction site, I'd like everyone to take a moment and just reflect on what we have already accomplished, and how far we have come.

This represents \$5.4M that has already been spent to bring us to this moment, and everyone has worked very hard to get us to this very exciting point.

Now please give yourselves a round of applause, you have all earned it.

Since our last update 6 months ago, several changes in construction and construction financing have occurred, so today I invite you to pay close attention as there are some significant changes to discuss.

With this important update this weekend, Fr. Mike will not have a homily today, and our Mass will conclude at our normal time.

First, I want to update you on Parish finances. Our fiscal year ended June 30 and I am pleased to report that our Operations Budget ended in the black and on the positive side, so once again thank you to everyone for your continued support of this most important part of our daily operations.

Next, I will update you on the actual construction progress of our Church and Parish office buildings.

In a recent meeting with Fr. Mike and Brian Leahey, our Director of Construction, Brian indicated that our

contractor T.B. Penick is indicating that April 21, 2015, is the scheduled completion date, of course barring any unforeseen circumstances.

Lastly, and most significantly, I would like to speak about the Mortgage/Building Completion Fund and some changes which have occurred regarding the actual mortgage on our new construction.

As you know, St. Thomas More initially approached the Diocese and proposed our building plans and financial information to the Bishop and Diocesan

officials several years ago. Following a lengthy review process, and based on our past and current fundraising history, the Diocese gave us permission to begin the building process. At that time it was Diocesan

protocol for the individual Parish to raise a significant amount of money as a down payment, and for the Diocese to then loan the remainder of the money in the form of a 25-year mortgage, which included a variable interest rate.

So the first significant change I need to address involves the mortgage holder. The San Diego Diocese has entered into a new agreement with the national office of the Knights of Columbus to assume the role of the actual lender, with the Diocese continuing to assume financial responsibility in the case of a default. So...St. Thomas More, along with other Parishes are now required to use the Knights of Columbus to provide funds for new construction. At the time of our original application with the Diocese,



\$6.6 million 20-year mortgage at 5.34% fixed

Monthly payment = \$45,000

Building completion target: April 21, 2015



the interest rate was 3.5% for 25 years, a rate that has already climbed to 4.5%, as the rate is variable and changes with the times. The Knights have proposed a fixed interest rate of 5.34% for 20 years. While the interest rate is initially higher, this will actually allow us to better plan our monthly payments over the life of the mortgage. In addition, the Knights of Columbus have approved St. Thomas more for a loan of \$6.6 million dollars. This is \$1 million more than the Diocese was able to provide. This is extremely beneficial to us, because construction costs have escalated with an improving economy. We will need this money to complete the project. It is worth noting, and we have all been affected in numerous ways, that with this improving economy, literally everything from gas to groceries, from rent to mortgages, tuition, and yes, construction costs have all increased. When we began the planning process several years ago, costs were lower and financing was lower than it is today...items that, of course, are out of our control. The cost of our project, including both the church and administration building, is now \$13.8 million dollars. We have been fortunate to have Brian Leahey available throughout the project; he has worked hard at negotiating with contractors, keeping costs as low as possible.

The next area of information I will review involves the financial impact of both an increase in construction costs and an increase in financing costs. At this date, as I mentioned, construction costs for both buildings is estimated at \$13.8 million. We had on deposit \$5.4 million, and we have approval for a loan of \$6.6 million; a total of \$12 million. This leaves a shortfall of \$1.8 million. A decision was made to sell the rectory, and we may also sell our adjacent 5-acre parcel of land, with any proceeds being applied to our shortfall. Fr. Mike and succeeding pastors will live in rented property.

Perhaps even more important is the immediate impact these changes will have on our ability to retire monthly debt. Our initial estimates, based on a 25-year mortgage at 3.5% interest was approximately

\$29,000 per month. With these changes I have outlined, the payment will now be \$45,000 per month. Significant...yes. But if past history is any indication, we will be fine. Allow me to explain...Throughout the past 19-month interim period since our last official Capital Campaign ended, we have averaged \$36,300 per month in Mortgage/Building Completion Fund donations. However, during our three previous very successful campaigns, we averaged \$60,000-\$75,000 per month.

Herein lies our challenge! The word challenge denotes a task that tests someone's abilities....

Once again we will be tested!

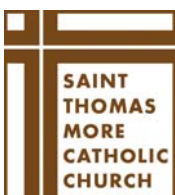
I am asking everyone in our Parish family to please rise to this challenge. We need you to consider what your household can commit to for the next 3 years... to get us started on the right path. If we can return to the level of financial commitment we had throughout our Capital Campaign years, we shall meet this challenge handily.

So please, prayerfully consider how you can again do your part individually, and collectively we can meet our goal. Time is critical—our loan payments start in October. In the very near future you will be receiving additional information from Fr. Mike and Chris Smith, our Director of Stewardship and Development. Once again, I ask you to please be as generous as your circumstances allow.

As I said to start, we have come a long way. Soon we will be worshipping in our new home. But...there is work to do. Fr. Mike and our Finance Council have every confidence in our ability to once again meet this challenge, much as we have met previous challenges.

On behalf of Fr. Mike and our entire team, thank you for listening to this important update. May God bless St. Thomas More Catholic Church.

Thank you...



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StThomasMoreRCC

