

SAINT
THOMAS
MORE
CATHOLIC
CHURCH

*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



Vigil of Christmas
Masses at 4:00pm, 4:15pm,
6:00pm, and 10:00pm

Christmas Day
Mass at 9:30am

Third Sunday of Advent December 14, 2014

Pastor's Column

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

Oplatki—Christmas Wafers

The word Bethlehem means “House of Bread.” The breaking of bread is a sign of charity, unity, and friendship.

Religious family traditions and customs bring the truths of Faith into the home.

One of these beautiful Christmas customs is the Christmas Wafer. A Wafer bearing a simple design commemorative of Christ's birth is given to everyone present gathered together for the Christmas meal.

With a simple prayer for God's grace and the welfare of the present and absent members of the family, the designated family member then invites everyone to go to another person, and with a gesture of a hug, kiss, or handshake, ask forgiveness for anything they may have done to hurt that family member in the past year, and to seek God's blessings upon them in the coming year.

Each person, as the words are said, then breaks a piece off of each other's Wafer and consumes the piece that has been broken off.

The spiritual lesson in this age old custom is unity of the family—the main pillar of society. The bond of unity is the Christ-like charity that should exist among the members of the family.

The members of the family are the links in the unbroken chain of One Body, One Bread, One Christ, and the One Church. The family is part of the eternal procession no matter where they are. For there is a universal longing to be always with one another, with God.

All this brings to mind clearly our charity for one another, to seek salvation together. Family customs remind us that we seek and obtain salvation with the help of others at all times.

(Continued on page 2)

Did You Know?

Probably something that many Parishioners do not think about...We need to purchase the altar breads and wine that is consecrated at all our Masses. The altar breads cost \$121/month and the altar wine costs \$181.75/month. This is a total yearly cost of \$3,633. Now you know!

Your donation to the “Did You Know?” Campaign helps us to balance our Operations Budget. Thank you!



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

These Christmas Wafers, and the home ritual surrounding their use, originated in Poland. This custom and ritual is also popular in Slovakia, Lithuania, Ukraine, and other parts of Catholic Eastern Europe.

Christmas table on the plaza this weekend and next week before Christmas.

I encourage you to make this home ritual a part of your Christmas traditions.

We give thanks to Parishioners, Ed and Clarice Bednarz, who have provided us with these Christmas Wafers.

Please take advantage of this gift, and if you haven't already, start a new family Christmas tradition.

F.A. Mike

Retirement Fund for Religious

Help aging sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. "Each year the need to provide for our elderly (members) becomes more pressing, and we are ever more grateful for these providential funds," writes a religious sister about the financial assistance received from the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your donation helps provide necessities such as prescription medication and nursing care. Please give to those who have given a lifetime. You may return the envelopes any time during December. Thank you!

Vocations

This Advent Season is a wonderful time for prayer and awaiting the arrival of the Christ Child. While you are doing that, if you feel you might be being called to the priesthood, permanent diaconate, or life as a vowed religious, explore the possibilities. Contact Deacon Tom at thonasgoeltz@aol.com or 760-727-8442. Serving God and His people in one of these vocations may be one of God's greatest gifts to you.

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.

Welcome New Parishioners

Mario & Maria Cugini
Tod & Tricia Lewis & Family

Congratulations to

Jack & Marge Gillen

who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary December 10.

Tim & Beverly Kowallek

who celebrate their 46th wedding anniversary December 14.

Mike & Henny Jocelyn

who celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary December 21.

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

Rosary

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

**Shop at Amazon.com?**

You can raise money for STM while you shop!

www.stmoside.org/scrip.htm

scroll to the Amazon Smile logo.

Also remember to buy Amazon Scrip
and raise even more money for STM!

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. **Remember, Scrip is available for purchase FIVE ways:**

1. Online—visit stmoside.org/scrip.html and look for the logo below for more info!
2. On the Plaza after weekend Masses
3. Monday-Friday during business hours in the Parish Office
4. Email at scrip@stmoside.org
5. Phone at 760-758-4100 x150

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

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**

Readings for the Week Ahead

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

Sunday, December 14 (8)
Third Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 61:1-2a,10-11
Luke 1:46-50,53-54 (Psalm)
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8,19-28
Monday, December 15 (187)
Numbers 24:2-7,15-17a
Psalm 25:4-5ab,6,7bc,8-9
Matthew 21:23-27
Tuesday, December 16 (188)
Zephaniah 3:1-2,9-13
Psalm 34:2-3,6-7,17-19,23
Matthew 21:28-32
Wednesday, December 17 (193)
Genesis 49:2,8-10
Psalm 72:1-4,7-8,17
Matthew 1:1-17
Thursday, December 18 (194)
Jeremiah 23:5-8
Psalm 72:1-2,12-13,18-19
Matthew 1:18-25
Friday, December 19 (195)
Judges 13:2-7,24-25a
Psalm 71:3-4a,5-6b,16-17
Luke 1:5-25
Saturday, December 20 (196)
Isaiah 7:10-14
Psalm 24:1-4b,5-6
Luke 1:26-38
Sunday, December 21 (11)
Fourth Sunday of Advent
2 Samuel 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16
Psalm 89:2-5,27,29
Romans 16:25-27
Luke 1:26-38

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 13, 5:00pm Gloria Bacca ☩
Sunday, December 14, 8:30am Elizabeth Asbra ☩
Sunday, December 14, 10:30am Mari-Jo Porter & Joseph Immerso ☩
Monday, December 15, 8:15am Gloria Wong ☩
Tuesday, December 16, 8:15am Roxanne Grunert ☩
Wednesday, December 17, 8:15am Bud Hazlett ☩
Thursday, December 18, 8:15am Teresa Monts ☩
Friday, December 19, 8:15am Albert Fleeman ☩
Saturday, December 20, 5:00pm Ted Stanislawski ☩
Sunday, December 21, 8:30am Mike & Henny Jocelyn
Sunday, December 21, 10:30am John Samhammer ☩

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

Changa Aguilera
Ernie Aichele
Mary Alexander
Carrie Autrey
Joshua Avery
Jose Luis Barbosa
Patricia Barbour
Clarice Bednarz
John Bennici
Regina Bentz
Lisa Berg
Roseanne Berg
Mary Betz
Betty Jean Bielich
Beth Brewer
Janet Brown
Todd Brown
Katie Browne
Jack & Mary Bruzas
Anita Buerger
Benjamin Bull
Tony Calderone
Shelby Campbell
Brianna Campos
Aria Cappeluti
The Vaughn Clevenger Family
Dolly Cole
Carl & Dorothy Coleman
James Coleman
Megan Connolly
Steven Cresencia
Lené Crowe
Karen Flaharty Daley
Beverly de Gelder
Nick Del Sesto
Hugo Delgado, Jr.
Christine DeSantis
Cecilia DeSimone
Carole Dillon
Edward Dolnik
Art & Dave Dossman
Bill Draper
John Drazkowski, Jr.
La Vonne Dumas
Jerome Elbacha
Carolyn Erickson Ey
The Esch Family
Sally Fay
Victoria Lopez Fenton
The Fiore Family
Mary Fleming
Ryan Flum
Ernie Follis
Eugene Franciscus
Kathryn Franklin
Joe Freire
The Greg French Family
Brian Frink
Jim Gallagher
The Joe Garcia Family
Kathy Gardner
Lois & Len Garth
Jack & Marge Gillen
Wendy Gonzales' Dad
Rick Gonzalez
The Greig Family
George Gritt
Luke Guenst
The Hagen Family
Susan Hallahan
Pat & Tom Hannon
The Harker Family
Dorothy Harrison
Barbara Hatem
Heidi Heaton
Lilian Hills
William Hokama
Samara Hook
Susan Hori
Tina Hunter
Iolanda Iacobelli
Gloria Jaime
Sue Johnston
Laura Kater
Dottie Kearney
Paul Kennedy
Connor Kerzie
Peggy Kiernan
Debbie Kinney
Mark Kneisel
Dewey Kolbo
Tony Korwin
The Kranz Family
Helen Kuhn
Lillian Lachance
The Lamelin Family
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
Gloria Maupin
Virginia McConnell
Bob McWilliams
Joyce Meehan
Kalei Mendiola
Phyllis Minaya
June Mitchell
June Montgomery
Nancy Moore
Elizabeth Muehlbacher
Conrad Murphy
Margie Myers
Nida Navarro
The Nelson Family
Richard Obsitnik
Fred Oey
Tom Oshinski
Bernadette Padovan
Ethan Palm
The Peveri Family
Helen Pingtella
Perry Postulka
The Joe Prokop Family
Bettie Provinse
Barbara Ramm
Evelyn Richards
Jan Riley
Connie Ringel
Rita Ritchie
Ann Roberds
Lily Robinson
Terri Rocha
Maria Rogers
The Russo Family
Rachel Sainc
Cindy Sanelli
Linda Schmidt
Joan Shea
Elizabeth Shirzad
Nick Soltau
Darek, Vanessa, & Elba Spizewski
Patricia St. Pierre
Sybil Staples
Mike Stirling
Pete Sullivan
Julie Teare
Tommy & Ginger Thompson
Sarah Tillinghast
William Tompson
Stephen Toth, Jr.
Olivia Trejo
The Trejo/Beltran Family
The Trejo/Maldonado/Uribe Family
The Vasquez Family
Martin Vertson
Lucy Vienna
Vanessa Vitiello
Wilson Wanner
Kevin Watson-Graff
Jerry Wechsler
John Whitton
Patricia Zavala
Jeanne Zeltner

Calendar Highlights

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

Dec 14	Liturgy of the Word for Children at 8:30am Mass
Dec 21	Liturgy of the Word for Children at 8:30am and 10:30am Masses
Dec 24	Vigil of Christmas Masses at 4:00pm, 4:15pm, 6:00pm, and 10:00pm
Dec 25	Christmas Day Mass at 9:30am
Dec 31	Vigil of Mary the Mother of God; Mass at 5:00pm
2015	
Jan 1	Mary the Mother of God Mass at 9:30am
Jan 4	Twelfth Night Choral Festival
Jan 18	Celebration of Fr. Mike's 40th Anniversary of Ordination
Jan 24	Women's Prayer Breakfast
Jan 25	Spirited Seniors: <i>The Lion in Winter</i> at Avo Theatre
Mar 1	New Member Reception

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
Adolfo Granados, MD, U.S. Navy
PFC Samuel Haro, US Army
PFC Cody Madere
Jeremiah Gabriel Nelson, USAF
Thomas Kevin Nelson, US Navy
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.

December 15 Sr. Eugenia Mayela Ortega, HCJS
December 16 Sr. Jane O'Shaughnessy, RSCJ
December 17 Sr. Carol Pack, SSS
December 18 Sr. Maria Imelda Padilla, DCJ
December 19 Sr. Maria Pascuzzi, CSJ
December 20 Sr. Millicent Peaslee, OLVIM
December 21 Sr. Juana Pereyra, SJS

Social Ministries & Outreach

Christmas Angel Ministry—Preparing the Way

As we prepare for the coming of the infant Jesus, we are hanging “crown” ornaments on the tree for baby gifts benefiting Birth Choice. These gifts are to be brought to Mass the weekend of January 3-4 when we celebrate the Epiphany. Just as the three kings brought gifts to the infant in the manger, we too will be bearing gifts for local infants in need. If shopping isn’t your thing, why not make a donation of a Scrip gift card and the Angels will take care of it for you!

Please note: The deadline for the Camp Pendleton Families is this weekend; please be sure to return your gifts clearly marked with your family number.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Lisa Seufert at leprechaun81@sbcglobal.net or 760-716-0977.

Just Faith Course on Faith and Ecology

You are invited to join us on a journey of discovery, dialogue, and discernment as our faith encounters the ecological crisis. Beginning the week of January 25, groups will meet once a week for eight weeks. We will use the JustFaith module designed as a community learning process built around the book, *Living Beyond the End of the World, A Spirituality of Hope*, by Margaret Swedish.

As we recognize that our planet is in great distress from a combination of industrialization and a culture of consumerism, causing the depletion of natural resources and natural environments, we will learn that our faith and Catholic social teaching support our struggle to protect and heal our earth. And we will learn how to answer the Gospel call to share our resources with an ever increasing world population.

We will have one group meeting each Monday night and there is room for more in that group. If there is enough interest for a day group, the time for that session will be decided at the informational meeting which will be held on Tuesday, January 20 at 7:00pm. If you are interested in attending the meeting or signing up for the course, please contact Martha Cannon at martha@petecannon.com or 858-449-7614.

Spirited Seniors Avo Playhouse Outing

If you think palace intrigue began with Henry the 8th, you don’t know his ancestor, Henry the 2nd. The Spirited Seniors are going to the Avo Playhouse in Vista to see *The Lion in Winter*. Look for the flyer in today’s bulletin.

A Closer Look Tour

You are invited to take *A Closer Look* tour of our church under construction with Brian Leahey, our Director of Construction, in between the morning Masses each Sunday. Hard hats will be provided and participants with reservations should meet behind the Information Table on the plaza by the fence at 9:50am. Tours will conclude in time for the 10:30am Mass. To reserve your spot, please contact Chris Smith at chris@stmoside.org or 760-758-4100 x120.

Marriage & Family Life

Moms & Kids—Moms! Are you a mom with infant thru school age children wanting to meet other moms in our Parish? Want to find a great way to meet friends for both you and your children? Join our dynamic and energetic Moms and Kids ministry December 15, at South Buena Vista Park (Shadowridge area). There are many other events throughout the month posted on our private Facebook page. Join us! Contact Jen Abelson at jen.abelson@gmail.com.



World Meeting of Families 2015—Saint John Paul II, hailed as the Pope of the Family, created the World Meeting of Families in 1994 in Rome to explore the critical role the family plays in society and to give families opportunities to talk about the challenges and blessings that all families have. This event takes place every three years and is sponsored by the Holy See’s Pontifical Council for the Family. This will be the first time that the World Meeting of Families (WMOF) will be held in the United States! The World Meeting 2015 is being held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and is scheduled to begin on Tuesday, September 22 and conclude on the weekend of September 26-27 with the visit of Pope Francis. For more information go to www.worldmeeting2015.org

Bishop’s Letter on Marriage—Marriage: Love and Life In The Divine Plan: The Vocation—“Become what you are! This might be a great exhortation to newly married couples, especially given the strong tendency nowadays to reduce the love of the marriage bond to only a feeling, perhaps the romantic love of courtship and honeymoon. When that feeling dries up, it may seem to them that they have nothing left and that they have failed. It is at these very times, however, that their vocation as spouses calls them to go further, to ‘become what they are,’ members of a marital communion defined by the unbreakable spousal love of Christ for his Church.” 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 #9: The Honeymoon. Not everyone takes a honeymoon after their wedding but whether you did or not, savor the early days of your marriage. What made them special? What did you learn about each other?

Parenting Pointers—With Christmas approaching this is a good time to talk with your child about selecting one or several toys to pass on to other children. It’s consistent with the “one in—one out” principle for keeping a simple home. It doesn’t have to be a favorite toy, but it should be something they think will bring joy to another.

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.

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

Parish Events

Knightly News

Cards on the Plaza

Visit the Knights of Columbus table after each of the Masses to purchase boxed Christmas Cards, "Keep Christ in Christmas" car magnets, and stickers. For more information please contact Hector Tusei at 760-630-4770.

BBQ!

The Knights of Columbus is having a BBQ (Hot Dogs, Chips and Drink) on the Plaza after the 10:30am Mass on December 14. Stop by and get your Chargers Tailgating treats and support your church and local charities. Chargers Kick-off time on December 14 is 1:05pm PST against the Broncos.

Women's Guild News

Our monthly meeting last Monday was exceptional, with stories about Sweden and its patron Saint Brigit and Santa Lucia shared by Mary Dahlberg, Rebecca Eyer, and Kathy Gerhard. Cookie decorating and Swedish cuisine; viewing artifacts of Sweden, and receiving Advent cubes made it an inspiring and educational meeting. Thank you Mary, Rebecca, and Kathy.

This is the weekend that the Christmas raffle winners will be chosen by Fr. Mike after the 10:30am Mass. Winners will be notified by phone right away. If you have not yet handed in or sent in your ticket stubs, they must arrive by Friday December 12 to be included in the drawing.

It is less than two months away, and our Fashion Show committee is busy preparing for this Parish fundraiser event in February. A large part of the day includes opportunity baskets. If anyone would like to help us by donating the contents of a basket, we welcome your help. Maybe two or three people could go in together in creating one. For suggestions on a theme or contents and amounts and where to deliver a basket, please call Maureen Tutino at 760-598-8211.

May your Advent preparation for celebrating the birth of Jesus be blessed. —*Ann Buko, president*

Heartnotes

Have you noticed those two gray seatback covers on the side aisle closest to the choir? They are marked "Reserved" and have a red cross on the back. They designate medically-trained Parishioners who are willing to be of assistance in case of a medical emergency. In such an event the hospitality ministers would instantly know who to call upon for help. These volunteers are likely to know if it is necessary to call 911 and to assist the victim if the problem is serious.

We need more help! If you are a trained medical responder, we invite you to participate. There is no formal schedule and we only ask that you fill those seats when you choose to do so. The more Parishioners we have on this informal team the more likely it is that someone will be there to help.

For more information contact Dr. Phil Goscienski; 760-732-1414 or drphilg@cox.net.

Memorial Item Donations

Pipe Organ	\$850,000
Church Doors (Bronze)	\$100,000
Crucifix	\$75,000
St. Thomas More Shrine (Tapestry)	\$75,000
Memorial Garden & Reflection Garden	
Landscape Concrete Walkways	\$80,000
Decomposed Granite Pathways with Header	\$24,000
Melrose Landscape Slope	\$15,000
Building Accent Lighting & Pole Fixtures	\$14,000
Landscape Accent Lighting	\$3,500
Drinking Fountains	\$2,500
Olive Trees in 7-foot boxes (10) 7 available	\$1,400/each
Audio Visual Systems	
Sound and Video Mixing Board	\$12,000
Video Screen (Motorized 21-foot)	\$9,000
Sound System Base Speaker	\$8,000
Sound System Cabling	\$5,000
Overflow Parking Lot Mulch	\$3,500
Pew Seating for the Church (1,000) 818 available	\$300/person
Daily Mass Chapel and Choir Chairs (200) 128 available	\$300/each

12/10/14

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 above 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



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

Liturgy & Music *Worship God*

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

A (SECRET) MESSAGE FOR THE FINAL DAYS OF ADVENT

The **O Antiphons** are used at Vespers (the sunset evening prayer service) the last seven days of Advent, December 17 through December 23. Each antiphon is a name of Christ, one of his attributes mentioned in Scripture.

The Benedictine monks arranged these antiphons so that if one starts with the last title and takes the first letter of each one—*Emmanuel, Rex, Oriens, Clavis, Radix, Adonai, Sapientia*—the Latin words *ero cras* are formed, meaning, “Tomorrow, I will come.” Therefore Jesus, whose coming we have prepared for in Advent and whom we have addressed in these seven Messianic titles, now speaks to us: “Tomorrow, I will come.”



John 1:8



O Wisdom, O holy Word of God,
 you govern all creation with your strong yet tender care:
Come, show your people the way to salvation.

O Sacred Lord of ancient Israel, who showed yourself to Moses
 in the burning bush, who gave him the holy law on Sinai mountain:

Come, stretch out your mighty hand to set us free.



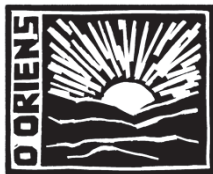
O Flower of Jesse's Stem, you have been raised up as a sign for all peoples;
 kings stand silent in your presence; the nations bow down before you:
Come, let nothing keep you from coming to our aid.



O Key of David,

O royal power of Israel controlling at your will the gate of heaven:

*Come, break down the prison walls of death for those
 who dwell in darkness; and lead your captive people into freedom.*



O Radiant Dawn,
 splendor of eternal light, sun of justice:

Come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.

O King of All the Nations, the only joy of every human heart;
 O Keystone of the mighty arch of humankind:

Come and save the creature you fashioned from the dust.



O Emmanuel,
 king and lawgiver, desire of the nations, Savior of all people:
Come and set us free.

Upcoming Music

✕

DECEMBER 21
 4th Sunday of
 Advent

✕

5:00pm

Praise Team

8:30am

Tower Bells

10:30am

Sanctuary Choir

DECK THE HALLS...

**CAN YOU HELP DECORATE THE CHURCH?
 FOR CHRISTMAS? IN THE FUTURE?**

Contact Kathy Arciero, 760-231-1022 or karciero@hotmail.com



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

Today is a REACH Sunday!

High School EDGEM YOUNG ADULT Genesis GRADES 1-5



Ready the Way!

Faith Formation Kids Prepare for the Birth of Jesus!

Adult Faith Formation

Sign Up Today! for Part 2

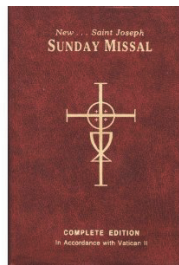


Wednesday mornings beginning January 7, 9:00-11:00am

This is the foundational study in *The Great Adventure* Bible Study Series that has helped hundreds of thousands of Catholics learn to read the Bible.

Pre-Registration is Required by December 19 to receive your workbook in time for the class.

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



Little Books for Advent and Sunday Missals

ARE AVAILABLE

PICK YOURS UP TODAY!!

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.

Join Us for



GUYS & GIRLS GROUP
Every Wednesday Night
6:30-8:00pm

Come Check Out Youth Group "LIFE NIGHT"
Every Monday
7:00-8:30pm.

Ugly Christmas Sweater Party



Monday
December 22
7:00pm

teens

XMAS

Monday
December 15
7:00pm
Praise & Worship
With
Anthem Rising
And Guest Speaker
CY KELLET

Stewardship & Development

Serve God's People

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

2014 YEAR-END CHECKLIST

- ◆ BE SURE TO COMPLETE all gifts by December 31 to qualify for tax savings on this year's tax return. **Advance planning with the Parish Office is essential, since the office will be closed from Monday, December 22 and will reopen on Monday, January 5.**
- ◆ Donations received the weekend of December 27/28, 2014, and the Wednesday, December 31, 2014, Vigil Mass will be credited in the 2014 tax year.
- ◆ **Envelopes POSTMARKED by Wednesday, December 31, 2014, will be counted toward the 2014 tax year.**
- ◆ **Annual Catholic Appeal**—Parishioners with a balance due on their pledges made to this year's ACA are requested to conclude payments by December 31, 2014. *(Tithing families, know that your tithe covers your ACA contribution.)*
- ◆ Keep all gift receipts and acknowledgment letters, especially for gifts of \$250 or more.

For more information, please contact:

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

Collection for Week of December 6/7, 2014

Number of Registered Households		1,137
Offertory*	\$	21,800.57
Offertory (Loose Collection)		849.50
Children's envelopes		0.00
Total	\$	22,650.07

Mortgage/Building Completion Fund Income

Monthly Mortgage Payment: \$44,806

	Income	Payment	Shortfall
September 2014	\$40,777	\$15,664*	
October 2014	\$38,989	\$44,806	\$5,817
November 2014	\$43,226	\$44,806	\$1,580

Building Completion Fund

November "Memorial Items Donations": \$36,165

**Our first mortgage payment was interest only.
 The mortgage took effect on September 15, 2014.*

It is important to note that neither our income in September, October, nor November was enough to cover our usual monthly payment of \$44,806.

It is critically important that there is an increase in Parishioner participation in the Mortgage/Building Completion Fund.

Please support the Mortgage/Building Completion Fund!

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.

Fulfilling God's Purpose in Our Time and Place

Because I was three years old, Mother held my hand as we went into the department store. It was December 1973. She had ten dollar bills for me . . . one for each of the Christmas gifts I'd soon purchase. Hand in hand, we explored the aisles filled with many possibilities.

After choosing nine gifts, it was time to buy Mother's. And so, reluctantly, *but with careful instructions*, she allowed me to leave her, and cross to the next aisle . . . alone!

The hairpin counter reached my chin. I pointed to a small shiny package. Showing the clerk one dollar bill, I asked, "Do I have enough money to buy these?"

"Oh, yes," she replied, "That package is only fifty cents. Do you want them?"

"Yes, please," I replied.

She put them in a small paper bag and gave me two quarters in change. I bounded back to Mother and handed her the change.

She was puzzled. "You got my gift?" she asked. I nodded with a smile. I didn't know much about arithmetic or shopping, but I knew about Christmas secrets. I told nobody what I had bought.

She savored the love ~

Many years later, Mother said she was more curious about that Christmas gift than any she ever received. She kept the hairpins unopened for many years. The truth was that I'd bought the wrong kind! But that didn't matter. She savored the thought and love behind this gift. And when she added her own thought and love to those dollar hairpins, the wrong gift became a treasured and wonderful one.



This is similar to the way God receives our gifts. God lovingly accepts and blesses all of our offerings.

—partially excerpted, Stewardship December 2014, Parish Publishing, LLC (with permission)

It is such a joy to witness our Parishioners with their ongoing generosity for those in need. It is true that giving is more fun than "getting." This is true all year long with our ministerial outreach, but especially so now. The Birth Choice crowns are on the tree on the plaza now. These gifts for infants are a very big help to women who choose to give birth under trying conditions, rather than ending their pregnancy. Remember to bring these gifts on or before Epiphany on January 4. God's blessings, Chris

We are called to be good stewards of all that we have and all that we are.

News & Information from the Larger Church

Advent Reconciliation Services at Local Parishes

Date	Time	Parish
Mon, Dec. 15	6:30pm	St. Mark, San Marcos
Tue, Dec. 16	7:00pm	Nativity, Fairbanks Ranch
Wed, Dec. 17	7:00pm	St. John the Evangelist, Encinitas
Thu, Dec. 18	6:00pm	St. Peter the Apostle, Fallbrook

World Meeting of Families 2015—September 22-25, 2015 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This event, which seeks to explore the critical role the family plays in society and to give families opportunities to talk about the challenges and blessings that all families have, was started by St. John Paul II, hailed as the Pope of the Family, is sponsored by the Holy See's Pontifical Council for the Family and is held every third year somewhere in the world. This will be the first time that the World Meeting of Families will be held in the United States! There is much excitement about the recent confirmation that Pope Francis will be joining us in Philadelphia. For more information and to register, visit www.worldmeeting2015.org.

Diocese of San Diego Social Ministry Office New Website: www.socialministrysandiego.com. Check it out and sign up for email notification of issues and events.

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.

Annual Christmas Concert in Rancho Bernardo—Sunday, December 14, 4:00pm, San Rafael Parish, 17252 Bernardo Center Dr., San Diego. For more information, contact Therese Bulat at 858-487-4314 x1225.

Lessons and Carols Concert at Mission San Luis Rey—Sunday, December 21, 2:30pm, Mission San Luis Rey, 4050 Mission Ave., Oceanside. Presented by the choirs of Mission San Luis Rey and St. Mary Star of the Sea.

One Life LA Event—Saturday, January 17—the first-ever large-scale event in downtown LA promoting the beauty and dignity of every human life from conception to natural death. Beginning at 10:00am at La Placita Olivera, we will walk through LA ending in Grand Park with a family-friendly picnic and festival. Round-trip bus transportation from San Diego county locations for \$25. For

more information, visit www.OnceLifeLA.org or call the San Diego Diocesan Office for Social Ministry at 858-490-8323.

Pax Christi San Diego Chapter—Pax Christi USA (Peace in Christ) is a national Catholic peace and justice movement. You are invited to an information meeting on Monday, January 12, 6:30-7:30pm, St. James Church, 625 S. Nardo, Ave., Solana Beach, to learn more. For more details, contact Christy at christybohan@cox.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.

Young Adult Ministry Activities

Visit www.yamsd.org for complete information on events for young adults, including spiritual, social and service events.

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

Catholic Widows and Widowers of North County

CWWNC meets the second Sunday of each month for a general meeting and potluck at 2:00pm. On the fourth Sunday of each month, we gather for Mass at various Parishes in North County followed by lunch. Check the bulletin board on the lower level of the Parish Center for our calendar of events, including potlucks, dining out, hiking, and more! RSVP's are required. For more info. call Carol Kope at 760- 726-0533 or Gerri Wilmott at 760- 758-9949.

Catholic Radio—AM 1000/Sirius 130—San Diego

Visit ihradio.com/sandiego

Online Rosary

Pray the rosary online—visit www.therosary3.com

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.

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.

Mass Schedule for Christmas

- **Vigil of Christmas, December 24**—4:00pm (English), 6:00pm (Vietnamese), 8:00pm (English), 10:00pm (Spanish), 12:00midnight (English)
- **Christmas Day, December 25**—9:30am (English), 11:30am (Spanish)



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

Parish Contacts

Updated 11/04/2014

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
- Moms & Kids.....Jen Abelson 410-570-6962
 - Lia Haubert 949-322-6458
- 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

- 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
- Sacristans—Altar Guild Mina Bell 760-295-7840
- Sacristans—Altar Linens Anna Meyers 760-727-4998

Marriage & Family Life Jen Frost 858-692-7438

- Bringing the Celebration Home Jen 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
- 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 Activities Henny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100
- Spirited Seniors Jim & Marilyn Day 760-509-4545

- Treasures Rummage Sale.....John & Wendy Murphy 760-497-6117
- Walking Ministry Diane Pal 760-815-2519
- Women’s Guild..... Ann Buko 760-726-8831

Social Ministries Cherie & Greg Abrahms 760-598-6776

- Blood Drive Stacey & Morgan Espe 760-224-2699
- 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 Support.....Henny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100
- Chair Set-Up Lorraine 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 Construction Brian Leahy 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 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

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor.....	760-758-4100 x100.....	<i>michaelr@stmoside.org</i>
Rev. Karl Bauer, Senior Priest.....	760-758-4100 x133.....	<i>karlb@stmoside.org</i>
Dcn. John Fredette.....	760-758-4100 x132.....	<i>johnf@stmoside.org</i>
Dcn. Tom Goeltz.....	760-758-4100 x100.....	<i>thomasg@stmoside.org</i>
Sr. Maureen Brown, Pastoral Associate.....	760-758-4100 x131.....	<i>maureenb@stmoside.org</i>
Dcn. John Fredette, Business Manager.....	760-758-4100 x104.....	<i>johnf@stmoside.org</i>
Debbie Fredette, Director of Faith Formation.....	760-758-4100 x110.....	<i>debbief@stmoside.org</i>
Matt Franklin, Youth Advocate.....	760-758-4100 x161.....	<i>mattf@stmoside.org</i>
Stacey Griffin, Faith Formation Office Assistant.....	760-758-4100 x110.....	<i>staceyg@stmoside.org</i>
Douglas Lynn, Director of Liturgy and Music.....	760-758-4100 x140.....	<i>douglasl@stmoside.org</i>
Kathy Santy, Assistant Music Director.....	760-758-4100 x100.....	<i>kathys@stmoside.org</i>
Sally Fay, Organist/Choir Accompanist.....	760-758-4100 x100.....	<i>sallyf@stmoside.org</i>
Chris Smith, Director of Stewardship and Development.....	760-758-4100 x120.....	<i>chriss@stmoside.org</i>
Joe Garcia, Director of Maintenance.....	760-758-4100 x151.....	<i>joeg@stmoside.org</i>
Henny Jocelyn, Receptionist/Secretary.....	760-758-4100 x100.....	<i>hennyj@stmoside.org</i>
Lorraine Doering, Parish Office Technician.....	760-758-4100 x102.....	<i>lorrained@stmoside.org</i>
Brian Leahy, Director of Construction.....	760-758-4100 x152.....	<i>brianl@stmoside.org</i>

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'The Spirited Seniors PRESENT

The Lion in Winter

Join us at the Avo Playhouse to see the production *The Lion in Winter*.

King Henry II, his sons, Eleanor of Aquitaine and King Phillip of France will draw you into an irresistible web of palace intrigue, sibling rivalry, adultery and deception!



Sunday, January 25, at 2:00pm
Ticket price: \$30 per person

Depart from the STM parking lot at 1:15pm (carpooling available)
Avo Playhouse, 303 Main Street, Vista

After the play, have an early dinner on your own with friends!

Deadline for reservations is January 20

Please complete the registration form and a check made out to "STM Spirited Seniors." Place in an envelope marked "Spirited Seniors Avo Playhouse" and return it in the offertory collection or to the Parish Office, Box 12, by January 20.

**For more information, contact Marilyn Day at 760-509-4545 or
Judy Buoniconti at 760-758-5113.**



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The Spirited Seniors Avo Playhouse • January 25 • Registration forms and checks due by January 20.

Name:	Telephone:	Today's date:
Guest Name(s):	Email:	Number of reservations:
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