

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



Mary Mother of God
Wednesday, December 31
Mass at 5:00pm
Thursday, January 1
Mass at 9:30am

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph December 28, 2014

Pastor's Column

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

Feast of the Holy Family

I share with you this reflection written by Dr. Marcellino D' Ambrosio:

Every year right after Christmas, we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family. There is a reason for this. It's easy to think the "incarnation" means God took on a human body.

But there is much more to it than that. In Jesus, God unites himself to an entire human nature. He fully enters into human experience, with all its peaks and valleys. And a part of that human experience, with more than its share of peaks and valleys, is family.

Jesus spent over 90% of his years in the obscure nitty-gritty of family life. Though only a few chapters (*of the New Testament*) are devoted to this lengthy period, what they reveal is significant. First of all, despite the cuddly image of our nativity scenes, the original Christmas was anything but cozy. A woman nine months pregnant rides 75 miles on the back of a donkey over bumpy, dusty roads so she can have her baby in a stable full of dirty, smelly animals. Quickly after the birth they have to pick up and flee for their lives, seeking asylum in a foreign land. A few years later, the now adolescent son goes missing for several days, and there ensues a conversation characterized by no little emotion. Joseph is a saint, Mary is without sin, Jesus is God incarnate, yet there are still challenges, difficulties, tense moments, and opportunities for misunderstanding. Welcome to real family life.

All things created by God are good, with human beings and human life *very* good according to Genesis chapter 1. Yet in assuming a human body, the Divine Word elevated its dignity, sanctifying it, and ennobling it. In accepting baptism from his cousin John, Jesus sanctifies water, and, in baptism, makes it an instrument of his sanctifying power. In entering into family life, Jesus does the same. The family, up till now naturally good, becomes an instrument of sanctification and growth in holiness.

As a teen, I thought a serious pursuit of holiness required opting out of marriage to enter a monastery. Holiness was about lots of quiet prayer and apostolic work. Noisy family life was a distraction to all this. The role of married folks was limited to getting to Mass and the sacraments, obeying the 10 commandments, and getting into heaven after a stay in Purgatory.

The feast of the Holy Family shows how far off-base I was. It reminds us, as Vatican II teaches, that all human beings are called to the heights of holiness. That all states in life, including student, teenager, and parent, offer abundant opportunities to grow in faith, hope, and love. That the nitty gritty of family life,

(Continued on page 2)

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

if approached right, can be a road to profound personal transformation and communion with God.

Think about it. The creator of the universe spent most of his human life as a craftsman, working with dad in the family business and ultimately taking it over. Mary, the holiest of all creatures, spent most of her time changing diapers, cooking, and cleaning. The secret to holiness is not to do extraordinary things, but to do ordinary things with extraordinary love and gratitude (Col 3:15-17).

The word seminary means "seedbed." It is a greenhouse where, in a sheltered environment, vocations can develop till they can not just survive in the real world, but bear fruit there.

The family is the original seminary. In its soil is sown the call to share in Christ's holiness and mission. Ironically, tending to seedlings causes the parent/gardeners to grow as well. So family, in God's plan, is a community where everyone has growing to do. Maybe that's why Colossians 3 talks so much about forgiveness and forbearance!

The bottom line is this—we don't become holy *despite* the hustle-bustle of family life, but in and through it.

Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio
Crossroads Initiative
www.crossroadsinitiative.com

F. 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!

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.

Congratulations to

Richard & Nancy Wozniak

who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary December 21.

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

Vocations

The waiting is over! The Christ Child has come!! Our savior is here....but there remains a lot of work to do and the workers are few. Have you been hearing a call to help as a priest, deacon, or vowed religious? If so, contact Deacon Tom at thomasgoeltz@aol.com or 760-727-8442 and explore the possibilities. Hope you had a wonderful Christmas and may God bless you this coming year.

Want to Donate Online?

Our newly updated website has an online giving option! Go to www.stmoside.org and click on *Donations*, then *Sign Up for Electronic Offerings*.

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

Sunday, December 28 (17)

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Sirach 3:2-6,12-14

Psalms 128:1-5

Colossians 3:12-21

Luke 2:22-40

Monday, December 29 (202)

1 John 2:3-11

Psalms 96:1-3,5b-6

Luke 2:22-35

Tuesday, December 30 (203)

1 John 2:12-17

Psalms 96:7-10

Luke 2:36-40

Wednesday, December 31 (204)

Sylvester I, pope

1 John 2:18-21

Psalms 96:1-2,11-13

John 1:1-18

Thursday, January 1 (18)

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Numbers 6:22-27

Psalms 67:2-3,5-6,8

Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 2:16-21

Friday, January 2 (205)

Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, bishops, doctors

1 John 2:22-28

Psalms 98:1-4

John 1:19-28

Saturday, January 3 (206)

The Most Holy Name of Jesus

1 John 2:29-3:6

Psalms 98:1,3cd-4,5-6

John 1:29-34

Sunday, January 4 (20)

The Epiphany of the Lord

Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalms 72:1-2,7-8,10-13

Ephesians 3:2-3a,5-6

Matthew 2:1-12

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

- Changa Aguilera
- Ernie Aichele
- Mary Alexander
- Carrie Autrey
- Joshua Avery
- The Balquiedra/Jimenez Family
- Jose Luis Barbosa
- Patricia Barbour
- Francie Barron
- 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
- Brianne Campos
- Aria Cappeluti
- The Vaughn Clevenger Family
- Dolly Cole
- Carl & Dorothy Coleman
- James Coleman
- 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
- John Draskowski, Jr.
- La Vonne Dumas
- Jerome Elbacha
- Carolyn Erickson Ey
- 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
- Tillie Gonzalez
- The Greig Family
- George Gritt
- Luke Guenst
- 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
- The Jaime/Rosas Family
- Sue Johnston
- Laura Kater
- Dottie Kearney
- Paul Kennedy
- Connor Kerzie
- Peggy Kiernan
- Debbie Kinney
- Mark Kneisel
- Bob Koffroth
- 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
- Richard Obsitnik
- Kare O'Dell
- Tom Oshinski
- Bernadette Padovan
- Ethan Palm
- Helen Pingtella
- Perry Postulka
- The Joe Prokop Family
- Bettie Province
- Barbara Ramm
- Evelyn Richards
- Jan Riley
- Connie Ringel
- Rita Ritchie
- 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 Sterling
- 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
- Patricia Zavala
- Jeanne Zeltner

Calendar Highlights

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

- Dec 28 Liturgy of the Word for Children at 8:30am and 10:30am Masses
- 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 7-8 Restaurant Fundraiser at Chili's
- Jan 18 Celebration of Fr. Mike's 40th Anniversary of Ordination
- Jan 21-22 Restaurant Fundraiser at Nucci's
- Jan 24 Women's Prayer Breakfast
- Jan 25 Spirited Seniors: *The Lion in Winter* at Avo Theatre
- Mar 1 New Member Reception
- May 1 STM Gala
- May 17 Towers of Faith Reception
- May 23 Confirmation at 5:00pm Mass
- Jun 12-14 Parish Campout
- Jun 22-26 Vacation Bible Camp

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 29	Sr. Celia Robledo, OLC
December 30	Sr. Virginia Rodee, RSCJ
December 31	Sr. Eva Lucia Rodriguez, SJS
January 1	Sr. Paulina Rodriguez, DCJ
January 2	Sr. Carmen Romero, CVI
January 3	Sr. M. Rosalia Romero, DCJ
January 4	Sr. Maria Elena Romero, DCJ

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 27, 5:00pm	Robert Jacobson Sr. ☩
Sunday, December 28, 8:30am	Dick McGearly ☩
Sunday, December 28, 10:30am	Walter Lantz ☩
Monday, December 29, 8:15am	George Duarte ☩
Tuesday, December 30, 8:15am	Gilda Spiegl and Fred Spiegl ☩
Wednesday, December 31, 5:00pm	Ron Namad ☩
Thursday, January 1, 9:30am	Birdie Byrne ☩
Friday, January 2, 8:15am	Sue Whitehead ☩
Saturday, January 3, 5:00pm	Robert Jacobson Sr. ☩
Sunday, January 4, 8:30am	Lillian Herkert ☩
Sunday, January 4, 10:30am	Rita Shepard ☩

Social Ministries & Outreach

Christmas Angel Ministry—Thank You Angels!

Thank you to all of the Angels who helped make Christmas more special for 51 Camp Pendleton families, approximately 300 parents and children from Solutions for Change, and 175 children from Catholic Charities. We certainly have earned our wings! All of your heartfelt donations have been delivered to those in need and we can't thank everyone enough for being so generous. Wishing all of the Angels of St. Thomas More a very Merry Christmas! Don't forget to bring your items for Birth Choice to Mass on the Feast of the Epiphany, January 3-4.

If you have any questions, please contact:

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

Just Faith Course on Faith and Ecology

Classes are now being formed for a journey of discovery, dialogue, and discernment as our faith encounters the ecological crisis. Using 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, we will meet for eight weeks, beginning the week of January 25. 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 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

The Spirited Seniors invite members and their guests to join us on Sunday January 25, at 2:00pm at the Avo Playhouse in Vista to see *The Lion in Winter*. Tickets are \$30 each. We will depart from the STM parking lot promptly at 1:15pm. The Avo Playhouse is located at 303 Main St., Vista. After the play, have an early dinner on your own with friends. Make your check payable to "STM Spirited Seniors," place it in an envelope marked "Spirited Seniors Avo Playhouse" and return it to the offertory collection or the Parish Office, Box 12, by January 20. As we will be carpooling, also indicate if you can drive and how many passengers you can accommodate or if you need a ride. Be sure your phone number is on your check. For more information, contact Marilyn Day at 760-509-4545 or Judy Buoniconti at 760-758-5113.

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? Join our dynamic and energetic Moms and Kids ministry at a local park on the first and third Mondays of each month. 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 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

Relationship Skills Workshop—Deacon Ralph and Peggy Skiano will be presenting Relationship Skills Workshops every Wednesday night at 7:00pm at San Rafael Parish Hall, 17252 Bernardo Center Drive, San Diego, beginning January 7 and ending April 29. Come and explore how to improve your relationships. You can attend one workshop, several, or all of them. The first workshop is January 7 and the topic is Building a Climate of Respect. For more information call Deacon Ralph at 858-490-8292.

Bishops' Letter on Marriage—Marriage: Love and Life in the Divine Plan: God always present— "They [married couples] are to foster this gospel faith among themselves and within their children through their teaching and example. Likewise, they live in hope of God's kindness, mercy, and generosity. In the midst of the inevitable trials and hardships, they trust that God is graciously watching over them and their family. They trust that the Father's love will never abandon them, but that, in union with Jesus, they will always remain in his presence." 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.wme.org or contact Eddie and Sheila Murphy at 760-295-0008.

Marriage Moments—As the year comes to a close, many people review its ups and downs. Share the happiest and saddest time for each of you this past year. Is there anything you want to change to love each other better next year?

Parenting Pointers—It's the weekend after Christmas. Perhaps the house is a mess—but hopefully it's a happy mess. Presumably your child has gotten some nice gifts. Take time to enjoy them together this weekend. Play some games. Rejoice in each other's company. Relax.

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.

Parish Events

Women's Guild News

Happy Christmas season in the midst of the "Twelve days of Christmas."

It is that time again when we need to plan for our January meeting and you need to call in your reservation for lunch. Call Vera at 760-295-0059 or email her at vbayliss@cox.net. Our January meeting is when we have our Chinese auction of gently used or new objects (not well used or "get rid of" things) that you might need to make room for with your new Christmas presents. Maybe you received a gift that doesn't fit yourself or your liking that you could bring to help fill our auction table. Nancy Wozniak will be our auctioneer again so it will be lots of fun. Please drop them off at the assigned table. No peeking until things are all set up. You might want to come early so we can get started on time.

Hope you are enjoying these special days before the New Year. Happy New Year 2015! —*Ann Buko, president*

Attention Men!

Year three of "That Man is You!—The Revelation of the Father" will resume mid-January.

Men's Fellowship meets the second Friday of each month. Join us on Friday, January 9, at 7:00pm.

For more information, contact Deacon John at 760-758-4100 x104 or johnf@stmoside.org.

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! RSVPs are required. For more info. call Carol Kope at 760-726-0533 or Gerri Wilmott at 760-758-9949.

Looking for a Way to Be Involved?

Visit our website (www.stmoside.org) and click on Get Involved for an easy way to find the perfect ministry to fit your time and talent!



Mass & Reconciliation
Dates & Times



Calendar of Events



Get Involved /
Parish Ministries

Memorial Item Donations

Pipe Organ	\$850,000
Church Doors (Bronze)	\$100,000
Crucifix	\$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) 816 available	\$300/person
Daily Mass Chapel and Choir Chairs (200) 128 available	\$300/each

12/15/14

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

SEEKING AND BEING SOUGHT BY GOD

by Patricia Datchuck
 Sánchez and Rafael
 Sánchez Alonso,
 from Celebration
 January 2015,
 with permission.

By God's grace and generous mercy, we have entered yet another calendar year. Some of us have made resolutions for the new year in which we have promised to do—or not to do—certain things in order to become more authentic reflections of the God in whose image we have been created. The inspired texts of our sacred authors will aid us in our efforts. As we pray over these wonderful gifts, a theme suggests itself to us: Seek the Lord. Could there be any better way to live our lives through the coming year?

scripture themes for January

John and then Mark will share with us the experiences of the first disciples when Jesus invited them to aid in his ministry. John tells us the apostles went in search of Jesus. Mark has Jesus seeking fishermen who would, in turn, use their skills to help others in their search for God. While remembering those who first searched for Jesus, we are also to remember the happy truth that as God's word and wisdom, Jesus puts himself in the path of those who look for him, "Wisdom is brilliant, she never fades. By those who love her, she is readily seen. By those who seek her, she is readily found. She anticipates those who desire her by making herself known" (Wis 6:12). So it is with Jesus. Never elusive, he is always near to us, counting every hair on our head and listening carefully to every beat of our heart. To know him is to know God; to love and be loved by him brings every fulfillment.

But there are times when we grow weary of seeking Jesus. We dread the challenge of closeness because our belonging to him makes demands on us. Seeking him means being willing to change, to grow and to be utterly transformed. When such weariness would send us running in the other direction, he still comes in search of us.

Francis Thompson captured the relentlessness of our loving Lord in his "The Hound of Heaven" (*Oxford Book of English Mystical Verse*, 1917): "I fled Him, down the nights and down the days; I fled Him down the arches of the years; I fled him down the labyrinthine ways of my own mind and, in the midst of tears, I fled...his strong feet that followed, followed after. But with unhurrying chase and unperturbed pace..." Near



Luke 2:40

Upcoming Music



JANUARY 1 Mary, the Mother of God

Octave of Christmas



5:00pm

Cantor and
 Congregation

9:30am

Cantor and
 Congregation



JANUARY 4 Epiphany of the Lord



5:00pm

Cappella Choir

8:30am

Tower Bells

10:30am

Sanctuary Choir

6:00pm

12th Night
 Choral Festival

On the feast of Epiphany (Jan 4), Trito-Isaiah shares a vision of many then-known nations of the earth traveling to Jerusalem to seek out and praise the Lord of glory. In his Gospel, Matthew illustrates the partial realization of that vision with his narrative of the magi coming from the east to seek the Lord. The author of Ephesians challenges readers to remember and affirm the universal character of the community. Gentiles—that is, all the peoples of the earth—are coheirs, members of the same body and copartners in Jesus.

As we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus (Jan 11), we will be blessed again with a vision. Deutero-Isaiah mediates an invitation to come to God and have every hunger satisfied. He will urge us all to seek the Lord and turn to the Lord, calling out for mercy with great confidence. In the Marcan Gospel, a voice from the heavens will identify Jesus as God's beloved Son. He is the One God has sent among us that we might know God more fully and intimately, and look for him in all his varied disguises.

On the second (Jan 18) and third (Jan 25) Sundays in Ordinary Time,

the end of the 182-line poem, after the protagonist has tried in vain to escape, there comes a Voice that says, "Whom wilt thou find to love ignoble thee, save Me, save only Me? All which I took from thee I did but take, not for thy harm, but just that thou might's seek it in my arms."

Almost three millennia before Thompson wrote, a psalmist captured the true nature of our ever-seeking God: "You search me, Lord, and know me. Wherever I sit or stand, whenever I walk or rest, you know where I have been ... if I scale the heavens you are there! If I plunge to the depths, you are there! If I fly toward the dawn or settle across the sea, even there you take hold of me, your right hand directs me" (Psalm 139).

With these assurances, we can readily welcome the calendar year now beginning, secure in the knowledge that there is nowhere we can go where God is not. Ever waiting for us, ever seeking for us, God will be present through every joy and sorrow this year may hold. God will be nearer than any danger and more powerful than any loss. Let us take the words of Deutero-Isaiah with us through every day and every night: "Seek the Lord while he may be found. Call to him while he is near" (Isa 55:1-11; Jan 11).

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

Faith Formation

Teach and Live the Gospel

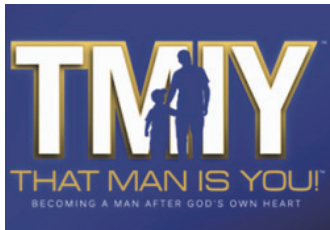
Matt Franklin
Youth Advocate
760-758-4100 x161; mattf@stmoside.org

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

Family Faith Formation

Merry Christmas!

**RE.A.CH. Classes Resume on
Sunday, January 11**



*Men of the Parish:
That Man is You
resumes mid-January.
Join us on Saturday mornings
for Faith Sharing and
Fellowship.
Contact Dcn. John Fredette
at johnf@stmoside.org
for more info*

**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.

Adult Faith Formation

SIGN UP TODAY!! for Part 2



**Do You Want to Know the Bible Better?
Join Us for**

The Great Adventure Bible Study

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

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

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

Sunday Missals ARE AVAILABLE



PICK YOURS UP TODAY!!

teens

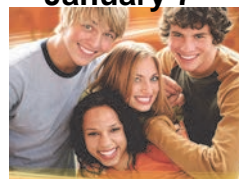
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Us
for



**Youth Group
"LIFE NIGHT"
Monday Jan 5
7:00-8:30pm**

Pizza, Music, Message,
and Fellowship
Bring a Friend!

**Wednesday Night
Guys and Girls
Groups
Will Resume on
January 7**



**PBJ Drive
Food for Children at the
Emergency Crisis Center**

2015 GOAL: 365 pounds
Let's Start the Year off Right!



Stewardship & Development

Serve God's People

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

ONLY 4 DAYS LEFT~YEAR END CHECK LIST!

- ◆ **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 tithes 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 20/21, 2014

Number of Registered Households		1,138
Offertory*	\$	13,379.49
Offertory (Loose Collection)		799.00
Children's envelopes		12.99
Total	\$	14,191.48

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 ~ Spiritual Investing

As we enjoy the Christmas season and look to the new year 2015, it helps to review how we did in 2014 with all that God has given us. I know of several people who have undergone suffering and major challenges, yet they have kept a positive attitude and have let go and let God. Any pity party I might consider goes right out the window when I witness this amazing faith and character.

How appreciated it makes the Lord feel when we use his gifts to make this world a little better! Wherever and whenever we can give our time and talents, we are essentially thanking the Lord for such wonderful gifts. We are showing him that we appreciate our blessings.

If you are not already doing so, pray about it, and look for ways to use your gifts at church and in the community. Our weekly bulletin is a good place to start. The STM website has a wealth of information to check out at www.stmoside.org. The rewards will be far more than you ever expected.

For all their differences, Christianity, Judaism, and Islam share many beliefs on at least one subject: the management of money. In all three religions, those who seek to apply their spiritual values to personal investing will find scriptural guidance.



Common among the faiths is a conviction that the money a person has ~ no matter how little or how much ~ comes from God, and that individuals must be good stewards of what's been given to them.

When you get to the Pearly Gates, the Lord isn't going to say, "What rate of return did you get?" God is going to ask, "What did you do with what I have given you?"

God intends each person to be a prudent money manager. The idea of stewardship means that you need to be careful and responsible with the use of your money. That encourages people to budget and to live within their means and not to be so focused on materialism that they lose sight of the higher values in life.

It is important to understand that our resources don't belong to us. We know that our job is to always manage money in a way that acknowledges that God is the owner.

—Partially excerpted, Parish Publishing, December 2014 (with permission)

Blessed Mother Teresa used to say that she was God's pencil. She understood the importance of acknowledging that God was her author. May we faithfully follow her example. Merry Christmas and a Blessed 2015!

News & Information from the Larger Church

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.socialministriesandiego.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.

New Year's Evening Mini-Retreat at Mission San Luis Rey—Wednesday, December 31, 5:30pm-12:00am. Includes dinner and Mass. For more information, visit www.sanluisrey.org.

JSerra Catholic High School Open House—Thursday, January 15, 6:30pm, JSerra Pavilion, 26351 Junipero Serra Rd., San Juan Capistrano. For more information, visit www.jserra.org.

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.

Weekly Peaceful Prayer Vigil to End Abortion—Tuesdays, 9:00-10:00am, outside the clinic at 120 Craven Rd., San Marcos. For more information, contact Jane Kelleher at 760-822-7041.

Birth Choice Volunteer Counselors Training—Call Heidi at 760-744-1313 for details and to sign up. Birth Choice is a pro-life, Christ-centered pregnancy resource center offering free pregnancy testing, ultrasound, and options counseling for women in crisis. For more information, visit www.birthchoice.net.

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

Mission San Luis Rey Retreat Center in Oceanside has an ongoing schedule of retreats! Visit www.sanluisrey.org for more details.

Retrouvaille for Troubled Marriages—A program designed to help troubled marriages regain their health. It helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust, and commitment that originally brought them together. For confidential information or to register for the January 9 weekend, call 951-259-9474 or visit www.retrosandiego.org.

Natural Family Planning Course in San Diego—For more information and/or to register for the series, contact 619-303-5053 or davidandcherylross@gmail.com.

Volunteers Needed—Scripps Coastal Medical Center, 4138 Mission Ave., Oceanside. Patient escorting, reception, and clinical and clerical help in clinic setting. For more information, contact Maria Flores at 760-901-5057.

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.

Epiphany Celebration—Join the Young Adults for an Epiphany Celebration on Sunday, January 4, 9:00am-9:00pm. There will be music, entertainment, and delicious food including street tacos, sopas, pozole, tamales, and more.

Fr. Don Calloway Coming to Speak—Tuesday, January 13, 7:00-9:00pm; topic is “No Turning Back: A Witness to Mercy.” Bring a friend and a snack to share.



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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 Aulio 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 LinensAnna Meyers 760-727-4998

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
- 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 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

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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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- Nurse Case Manager
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Twelfth Night Choral Festival

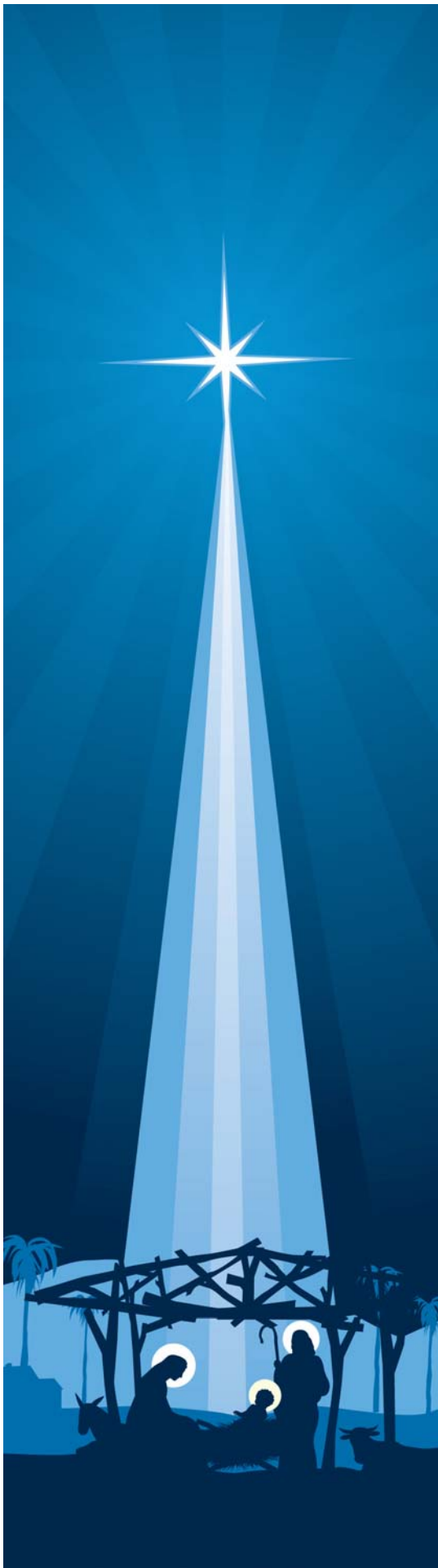
Our 14th Annual Ecumenical Gathering
featuring Congregational Carols
and North County Choirs

King of Kings Lutheran
Mission San Luis Rey Catholic
St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic
St. Thomas More Catholic
United Methodist Church of Vista

Sunday, January 4, 2015

6:00 p.m.

St. Thomas More Catholic Church
1450 South Melrose Drive, Oceanside



760.758.4100 ✦ www.stmoside.org ✦ parishoffice@stmoside.org



OneLife LA

UnaVida LA

1.17.15

10 am • The Kiosko at La Placita Olvera
Downtown LA

Join Archbishop Gomez of Los Angeles, several other Bishops from Southern California, and thousands of people from throughout Southern California on January 17, 2015 at OneLife LA, 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 10:00 at La Placita Olvera, we will walk through LA ending in Grand Park with a family-friendly picnic with music, entertainment, speakers, food trucks, and exhibits from local organizations serving those in need. We are pleased to inform you that \$25 tickets on Round-trip buses leaving from ten parish-based locations in San Diego County, to and from LA, can be purchased online at the following web site: www.OneLifeLABus.org. Visit the One Life LA web site at: www.OneLifeLA.org. Join thousands in Los Angeles for the One Life LA Celebration of life. Contact the San Diego Diocesan Office for Social Ministry for additional information at: 858-490-8323.

Join thousands to walk and promote the beauty and dignity of every human life, particularly the most vulnerable in our community. The walk ends at Grand Park with a picnic, entertainment, speakers, exhibits and more!
To purchase round-trip bus tickets from San Diego to Los Angeles for \$25 per person, visit: onelifelabus.org
For the OneLifeLA web site and free walk registration visit: onelifela.org

Únete a miles de personas a caminar y apreciar la belleza y la dignidad de toda vida humana, en particular la de los más vulnerables en nuestra comunidad. La caminata termina en el parque Grand Park LA con un picnic, entretenimiento, conferencistas, exhibiciones y más!
Para la compra de boletos de autobús ida y vuelta de San Diego a Los Angeles a \$25 por persona, visite onelifelabus.org
Para inscripción gratuita a la caminata OneLifeLA visite unavidala.org