

**SAINT  
THOMAS  
MORE  
CATHOLIC  
CHURCH**

**"Come, and you will see."  
They saw where he was staying  
and they stayed with him.**

**—John 1:39**



**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



**Congratulations to Fr. Mike  
on the 40th Anniversary  
of His Ordination!**

**Second Sunday in Ordinary Time  
January 18, 2015**

**Pastor's Column**

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

**Nothing Less Than All of You Is What I Want**

Saturday, January 31, 2015, marks the 40th anniversary of my Ordination to the Priesthood. (I chose to celebrate it on this weekend, Sunday, January 18, because I did not want to compete with the Super Bowl on the weekend of January 31/February 1. I know I would lose! HA!)

I give thanks to God for the gift of my vocation and God's willingness to allow me to share in the Priesthood of Jesus Christ. I pray for continued strength as I head into "the home stretch."

I am so grateful for St. Thomas More Parish, this Community of Faith that I have the privilege and joy to pastor.

A Pastor needs to be fed, just as the flock needs to be fed. Please know that I am being fed by you, the People of St. Thomas More Parish! Your commitment, your desire, and your efforts to live as Disciples of Jesus, and to witness to God's Kingdom in this time and in this place mean much to me. You feed me and you strengthen my commitment to be faithful to my promises and vows. Always remember that we need each other. You need a pastor, and, just as importantly, a pastor needs his community.

As I celebrate 40 years of ministry, two phrases come to mind: "permanent commitment" and "humor."

Firstly, the most important charism that is needed for our time is, I believe, "permanent commitment." There are many people in our world today who believe that people cannot make a commitment that lasts "until death." All of us, married, vowed religious, and ordained are called to give to this generation the gift of "permanent commitment."

Our young people, especially, need to see that people can make commitments that last a lifetime. That is what I have chosen to do. No matter what the problem or difficulty, I choose to believe that, with the help of God, it can be worked out.

On January 31, 1975 in Mt. Clemens, Michigan, Bishop Thomas Gumbleton, the Auxiliary Bishop of Detroit, ordained me. I will not walk away from this commitment because I believe that this generation needs to see the charism of permanence. People can say "yes" and that "yes" can last until death.

Secondly, what has "saved" me in my ordained ministry over and over again is "humor," the ability to laugh at myself and to laugh, not at others, but with others. Our very existence is Mystery. Continually we face the unknown, and as we face the joy, the turmoil, and the tragedy of life, humor is a vital gift that sees us through.

I give thanks to God that, in my 40 years of ministry, the gift of humor has found its way into my life and ministry. So much of life is unknown, and, at times, may seem

*(Continued on page 2)*

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

meaningless and even absurd! So, in the face of "not knowing" and consciously "living the questions", I choose to laugh, regale, and enjoy the Mystery, and to be in awe of what life places before us, knowing that God walks with us through it all.

These are the words of my Ordination Prayer Card. I pray this prayer often. Please pray it with your household when the opportunity arises:

*Who is that Figure walking by the waters,  
along the shore white, shining and terrible?  
He looks at me with Knowing eyes that hurt.  
I think He sees my every fiber with those Eyes...  
glowing, blazing, probing, loving Eyes,  
dreadful, asking Eyes.  
They say straightforward  
Nothing less than all of you is what I want.*

I feel that I am giving more of myself to the Lord today than I did 40 years ago, but I still have a long way to go before I am able to give the Lord everything. I encourage you to join me on the journey.

Let us pray that all of us, as Disciples of the Lord Jesus, each day, give a bit more of ourselves to him until the transformation is total and complete!

*Fr. Mike*

**Vocations**

As we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the ordination of Fr. Mike this weekend, we offer a special prayer of blessing for him and we pray for all priests, deacons, and vowed religious who dedicate their lives to God and His people. If you think you have a call to join them, explore the possibilities and contact Deacon Tom at [thomasgoeltz@aol.com](mailto:thomasgoeltz@aol.com) or 760-727-8442. It's a great vocation.

**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](mailto:80bell80@gmail.com).

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

**Welcome New Parishioners**

**Christene Bowling**

**Congratulations to**

**Paul & Lou Gordon**

who celebrate their 35th wedding anniversary January 18.

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

**Flower Donations**

The Altar Flowers for this weekend are given by **Paul & Lou Gordon** in honor of their anniversary..

**Flower Donations**

This weekend's other flowers are given by the Parishioners of St. Thomas More Catholic Church in celebration of Fr. Michael Ratajczak's 40th anniversary of priestly ordination and in thanksgiving for his continuing commitment to the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ in this time and in this place, with our deepest gratitude

**In Memoriam**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

**Richard Lynn**, father of staff member Douglas Lynn, died on January 10. A memorial service will be held in San Francisco. Please keep his his wife, Evadna, and all the family in prayer.

**Richard Johansen**, who died last week. His funeral arrangements are pending. Please keep his family in your prayers.

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

**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 January 14 we have netted \$52,902  
from this program. Thank you donors!**



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

**STM Scrip News**

Thanks to all who support the Scrip program! A percentage of every Scrip gift card purchased benefits our Parish Mortgage/ Building Completion Fund.

**For more information, please contact the Scrip Team at 760-758-4100 x150, [scrip@stmoside.org](mailto:scrip@stmoside.org), or visit the Parish website at [www.stmoside.org](http://www.stmoside.org).**

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

**Readings for the Week Ahead**

Sunday Year B; Weekday Year I  
Readings online at [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org).

**Sunday, January 18 (65)**  
*Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
1 Samuel 3:3b-10,19  
Psalm 40:2,4,7-10  
1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a,17-20  
John 1:35-42

**Monday, January 19 (311)**  
Hebrews 5:1-10  
Psalm 110:1-4  
Mark 2:18-22

**Tuesday, January 20 (312)**  
*Fabian, pope, martyr;*  
*Sebastian, martyr*  
Hebrews 6:10-20  
Psalm 111:1-2,4-5,9,10c  
Mark 2:23-28

**Wednesday, January 21 (313)**  
*Agnes, virgin, martyr*  
Hebrews 7:1-3,15-17  
Psalm 110:1-4  
Mark 3:1-6

**Thursday, January 22 (314)**  
Hebrews 7:25-8:6  
Psalm 40:7-10,17  
Mark 3:7-12

**Friday, January 23 (315)**  
*Vincent, deacon, martyr*  
*Marianne Cope, virgin*  
Hebrews 8:6-13  
Psalm 85:8-10-14  
Mark 3:13-19

**Saturday, January 24 (316)**  
*Francis de Sales, bishop, doctor*  
Hebrews 9:2-3,11-14  
Psalm 47:2-3,6-9  
Mark 3:20-21

**Sunday, January 25 (68)**  
*Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Jonah 3:1-5,10  
Psalm 25:4-9  
1 Corinthians 7:29-31  
Mark 1:14-20

**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  
Piet Boets  
Beth Brewer  
Janet Brown  
Sr. Maureen Brown  
Todd Brown  
Katie Browne  
Jack & Mary Bruzas  
Anita Buerger  
The Cadieux Family  
Tony Calderone  
Shelby Campbell  
Brianna 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 Drazkowski, 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  
George Gritt  
Luke Guent  
Susan Hallahan  
Susan Hannibal  
Pat & Tom Hannon  
The Harker Family  
Dorothy Harrison  
Barbara Hatem  
Heidi Heaton  
Lilian Hills  
Samara Hook  
Susan Hori  
Tina Hunter  
Iolanda Iacobelli  
The Jaime/Rosas Family  
The Johansen Family  
Sue Johnston  
Laura Kater  
Dottie Kearney  
Paul Kennedy  
Connor Kerzie  
Peggy Kiernan  
Debbie Kinney  
Mark Kneisel  
Bob Koffroth  
Dewey Kolbo  
Tony Korwin  
Helen Kuhn  
Lillian Lachance  
The Lamelin Family  
Mike Lavis  
Brandon LeBlanc  
Jeremiah Lemus  
David Leué  
The Paul Leué Family  
The Lew Family  
Ashley Load  
Shirley Loggins  
Cassandra & Lauren Loretto  
Jack Lucarelli  
The Lynn Family  
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  
Angela Nacional  
Melanie Nacional  
Nida Navarro  
Richard Obsitnik  
Kare O'Dell  
Bernadette Padovan  
Ethan Palm  
Helen Pingtella  
Perry Postulka  
The Joe Prokop Family  
Bettie Province  
Barbara Ramm  
Evelyn Richards  
Jan Riley  
Connie Ringel  
Rita Ritchie  
George Rivera  
Lily Robinson  
Maria Rogers  
The Russo Family  
Rachel Sainc  
Cindy Sanelli  
Linda Schmidt  
Joan Shea  
Elizabeth Shirzad  
Tom Simonson  
Nick Soltau  
Darek, Vanessa, & Elba Spizewski  
Patricia St. Pierre  
Sybil Staples  
Mike Sterling  
Pete Sullivan  
Julie Teare  
Alan Thompson  
Tommy & Ginger Thompson  
Sarah Tillinghast  
William Tompson  
Stephen Toth, Jr.  
Olivia Trejo  
The Trejo/Beltran Family  
The Trejo/Maldonado/Uribe Family  
Maureen Tutino  
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](http://www.stmoside.org),  
Schedule and Calendar

Jan 18 Celebration of Fr. Mike's  
40th Anniversary of  
Ordination at 10:30am  
Mass

Jan 20 JustFaith Info Meeting

Jan 21-22 Restaurant Fundraiser at  
Nucci's

Jan 24 That Man Is You! resumes  
Liturgy of the Word for  
Children at 8:30am Mass

Jan 25 RE.A.CH Classes at  
church

Jan 25 Spirited Seniors: *The Lion  
in Winter* at Avo Theatre

Feb 21 Women's Prayer Breakfast  
(new date)

Mar 1 New Member Reception

Mar 1-4 Parish Mission

Mar 24 Women's Guild Day of  
Recollection

Apr 19 Spring Sing Concert

May 1 STM Gala

May 17 Towers of Faith Reception  
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.

Mass Intentions
Saturday, January 17, 5:00pm Donna Doherty ☩
Sunday, January 18, 8:30am Joseph J. Panella ☩
Sunday, January 18, 10:30am Fr. Mike Ratajczak & All Priests
Monday, January 19, 8:15am Cecilia Thomas ☩
Tuesday, January 20, 8:15am Brandon Medina ☩
Wednesday, January 21, 5:00pm Dave Bristow ☩
Thursday, January 22, 8:15am Emiliana Maldonado ☩
Friday, January 23, 8:15am Eli Kiran Sachar ☩
Saturday, January 24, 5:00pm Rita Ross ☩
Sunday, January 25, 8:30am David Sheehan ☩
Sunday, January 25, 10:30am Rosary Leone ☩

January 19 Sr. Suzanne Snyder, SHCJ
January 20 Sr. Margaret Spence, CSN
January 21 Sr. Virginia (Gloria) Sturgeon, SSND
January 22 Sr. Columba Joseph Sullivan, CSN
January 23 Sr. Adrienne Taitano, SSND
January 24 Sr. Mary Maselina Tevaga, CSN
January 25 Sr. Joyce Anne Thomas, CSJO

## Social Ministries & Outreach

### Just Faith Course on Faith and Ecology

Please join us at an informational meeting on Tuesday, January 20, at 7:00pm to learn about an eight week course dealing with the struggle to protect and heal our planet. 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. If you are interested in attending the meeting, or signing up for the course, please contact Martha Cannon at [martha@petecannon.com](mailto:martha@petecannon.com) or 858-449-7614.

### Become a Friend of La Posada! Friendship Drive: January 24-25

The “Friends of La Posada” is the financial and social support group for the men’s shelter, La Posada de Guadalupe (the inn of our Lady of Guadalupe).

La Posada is special to St. Thomas More Parish because the shelter is within our parish geographic jurisdiction. The shelter we support has a diverse population: Caucasians, Hispanics, African-Americans. Last year, 24 were veterans. Besides room and board, these men receive a variety of case management services that help them to become independent, healthy, and contributing members of their communities. About 40 of the men are farm workers who formerly slept in make-shift shelters in the fields or in crowded apartments.

Last year, La Posada moved into a new mission-style building on the same site and doubled in size (going from 50 beds to 100, including 50 beds for farm workers. Naturally operating expenses have doubled as well.

We hope you will continue to show your commitment to La Posada and its programs for homeless men and farm workers by becoming an “official” friend.

Join us at an appropriate membership level for the year, \$35 for individuals, \$50 for families. There are other levels for businesses and organizations.

See us on the plaza after the Masses on January 24-25!

Please become a Friend of La Posada!

### Be an STM Supporter!

- † Use your yellow Mortgage/Building Completion envelopes
- † Use online giving ([stmoside.org](http://stmoside.org)) to make contributions using your credit card or bank account
- † Consider a memorial item donation (see page 5)

## Marriage & Family Life

**Moms & Kids**—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 on January 19 at Hidden Canyon Park. There are many other events throughout the month posted on our private Facebook page. Join us! Contact Jen Abelson at [jen.abelson@gmail.com](mailto:jen.abelson@gmail.com).



**Civil to Church Marriage**—Are you civilly married, but haven’t yet been married in the church? Contact Fr. Mike at [michaelp@stmoside.org](mailto:michaelp@stmoside.org) to begin your preparation!

**Bishops’ Letter on Marriage**—Gratitude: “As a husband and wife are thankful for one another and express this gratitude in the giving of themselves completely to one another, so this gratitude is open to the further gifts that this self-giving literally embodies: that is, a gratitude for the possible further gift of children. Inherent within a husband’s gratitude for his wife is that together with her he can beget children. Inherent within a wife’s gratitude for her husband is that together with him she can conceive children. Together a husband and wife are gratefully open to the gift of children.” 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](http://www.wvme.org) or contact Eddie and Sheila Murphy at 760-295-0008.

**Marriage Moments**—(Martin Luther King) What does it mean to be equal? Are both of you equally good at cooking, mechanical things, sewing, small talk? Probably not. Even though your spouse may have a natural talent for a particular task, try trading chores for a day. Just for fun.

**Parenting Pointers**—God called Samuel several times before he recognized the call (1 Samuel 3). Jesus called the apostles and they followed quickly (John 1:35)—perhaps so quickly they didn’t really understand what they were saying YES to. Talk to your children about what they want to be when they grow up. What kind of person do they want to be NOW?

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.

### 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 on selected Sundays. 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 [chriss@stmoside.org](mailto:chriss@stmoside.org) or 760-758-4100 x120.



## Parish Events

### Women's Guild News

Our Auction meeting last week proved to be lots of fun. Thanks to auctioneer Nancy Wozniak and her helpers Elaine Wieler and Siggie Ogan. We exchanged and acquired some useful and beautiful items in the process. —*Ann Buko, president*

**Hearts and Flowers Fashion Show**—All ladies of the Parish and their friends are cordially invited to join us for our annual luncheon and fashion show. This is always a highlight of our year and will be held on Saturday, February 7, at Shadowridge Country Club at 11:00am. Members will preview the new spring fashions presented by our own models, wearing the latest designs from Draper's and Damon's. We have many excellent opportunity baskets as well as an abundance of door prizes. This is always a very exciting, fun-filled event that you won't want to miss! Tickets are \$45, and all proceeds go to the mortgage/building fund. Tickets will be sold after Masses on January 17-18, 24-25, and January 31-February 1. If you have door prizes to deliver, please bring them to Mary Coxon or to the church office. For opportunity baskets, take them to Maureen Tutino or the office. Thank you to all who have volunteered.

—*Valerie Thompson, chair 760-630-1703 valgene2@cox.net*  
*Siggie Ogan, co-chair 760-994-4727 siggieo@yahoo.com*

### Attention Men!

Year three of "That Man is You!—The Revelation of the Father" will resume on Saturday, January 24, at 6:45am with the topic "St. Joseph, The Heart of a Father."

For more information, contact Deacon John at 760-758-4100 x104 or [johnf@stmoside.org](mailto:johnf@stmoside.org).

### 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. Reservations due by January 20. For more information, contact Marilyn Day at 760-509-4545 or Judy Buoniconti at 760-758-5113.

Watch upcoming bulletins for details on the annual Valentine Luncheon and Piano concert coming up on Saturday, February 14!

### 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.

## Memorial Item Donations

Pipe Organ	\$850,000
Crucifix	\$75,000
<b>Memorial Garden &amp; Reflection Garden</b>	
Landscape Concrete Walkways	\$80,000
Decomposed Granite Pathways with Header	\$24,000
Melrose Landscape Slope	\$15,000
Building Accent Lighting & Pole Fixtures	\$14,000
Drinking Fountains	\$2,500
Olive Trees in 7-foot boxes (10) 7 available	\$1,400/each
<b>Audio Visual Systems</b>	
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
<b>Overflow Parking Lot Mulch</b>	\$3,500
<b>Pew Seating for the Church (1,000) 805 available</b>	\$300/person
<b>Daily Mass Chapel and Choir Chairs (200) 117 available</b>	\$300/each

01/12/15

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 [chris@stmoside.org](mailto:chris@stmoside.org)



*For more information on our progress, visit our website, [stmoside.org](http://stmoside.org), and click on New Construction.*

**Visit the Parish website: [www.stmoside.org](http://www.stmoside.org).  
Explore!**

# Liturgy & Music *Worship God*

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

## THAT ALL MAY BE ONE

### the 2015 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

In the past year, Pope Francis, has spoken to many representatives of other Christian denominations that have visited him at the Vatican. At his meeting with the World Evangelical Alliance on November 6, 2014, he made these remarks:

*From the beginning, there have been divisions among Christians and sadly, even today, conflicts and rivalries exist between our communities. This weakens our ability to fulfill the Lord's commandment to preach the Gospel to all peoples (see Matthew 28:19-20). Our divisions mar the beauty of the seamless robe of Christ, yet they do not completely destroy the profound unity brought about by grace in all the baptized (see Unitatis Redintegratio, 13). The effectiveness of the Christian message would no doubt be greater were Christians to overcome their divisions, and together celebrate the sacraments, spread the word of God, and bear witness to charity.*

The **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** gives Christians an annual opportunity to continue their quest for the unity they already share in Christ. It is also a time to gather in praise of the Triune God and to deepen the understanding of the ecumenical movement. By joining in this annual celebration Christians raise their voices, hands, and hearts to God seeking the fulfillment of the prayer of Jesus, the Son of God, "that they all may be one."

The Week of Prayer also invites those who participate to use it as an opportunity to examine the effectiveness of the ecumenical movement in seeking to end the divisions among Christians. From the smallest to the largest communities, from all cultures, races, and language groups, from all the baptized to all those in ordained ministry, the Week of Prayer is also an opportunity to examine the level of support they have given to this important movement in the life of the Church. An accounting of each Christian's discipleship and faithfulness to the proclamation of the Gospel—the good news of reconciliation—can be taken every year during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

The annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins this Sunday, January 18, and continues through Sunday, January 25, traditionally the feasts of the Chair of St. Peter and the Conversion of St. Paul, respectively. The theme for 2015 is taken from John 4:7—Jesus said to her, "Give Me a Drink."

We invite you to use the Daily Scripture and Prayer Guide enclosed in today's bulletin to join with Christians around the world praying "that all may be one... that the world may believe" (John 17:21).



John 1:39

## Happy Anniversary Fr. Mike!

This year's theme finds its origins in the Gospel of John, chapter 4:1-42. The encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman invites us to try water from a different well and also to offer a little of our own. In diversity, we enrich each other. When Jesus says to her, "please give me a drink" it implies an ethical action that recognizes the need for one another in living out the Church's mission. It compels us to change our attitude, to commit ourselves to seek unity in the midst of our diversity, through our openness to a variety of forms of prayer and Christian spirituality. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is a privileged moment for prayer, encounter, and dialogue. It is an opportunity to recognize the richness and value that are present in the other, the different, and to ask God for the gift of unity.

Let us pray...

—Douglas

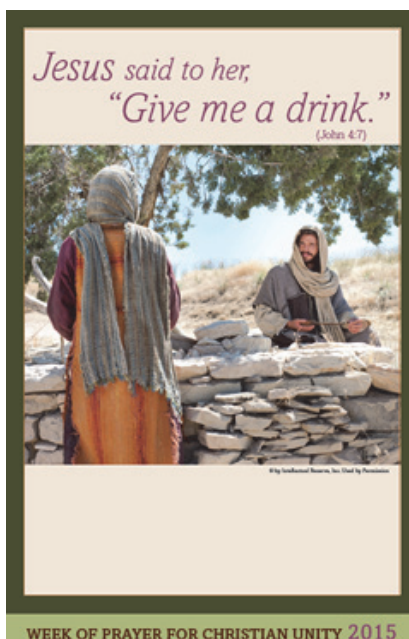
### Upcoming Music



**JANUARY 25**  
**3rd Sunday in**  
**Ordinary Time**  
**Week of Prayer**  
**for**  
**Christian Unity**  
**January 18-25**



**5:00pm**  
Cantor &  
Congregation  
**8:30am**  
Tower Bells  
**10:30am**  
Sanctuary Choir



WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2015

# 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

Our next Reach Sunday is January 25

Genesis  
YOUNG ADULT  
GRADES 1-5  
High School  
EDGE

### Parents of Children Preparing for First Communion



Please plan to attend the next Parent Meeting on Sunday, January 25 at 12:30pm On the Upper Level of the Parish Center

### Confirmation Class 2015 Plan to Attend M<sup>3</sup>

5:00 Mass, Family Potluck Meal, and Message Saturday, February 7 Parents, Siblings, Grandparents, and Sponsors Welcome!

## Adult Faith Formation

### Do You Want to Know the Bible Better?

Join Us for

### The Great Adventure Bible Study

Wednesday mornings  
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.



### Join Us For Session 3 on SUNDAY, January 25

12:30pm

ALL ARE INVITED!

This event is free!

### 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.



# ignite



# teens

## XLT

WORSHIP | MESSAGE | ADORATION

ALL THINGS NEW

1.26.15  
7PM-9PM

1450 S. MELROSE DR. OCEANSIDE CA 92056

# Stewardship & Development

Serve God's People

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

## A WAY TO GIVE ~ A WAY TO RECEIVE



### DESIGNATED BANK ACCOUNTS, WILLS, LIVING TRUSTS, STOCKS, LIFE INSURANCE, MUTUAL FUNDS, REAL ESTATE, ENDOWMENTS

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

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

#### For more information please contact:

Chris Smith at 758-4100 x120 or [chriss@stmoside.org](mailto:chriss@stmoside.org).

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

## Collection for Week of January 10/11, 2015

Number of Registered Households		1,139
Offertory	\$	17,643.59
Offertory (Loose Collection)		700.00
Children's envelopes		0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>18,343.59</b>

### Mortgage/Building Completion Fund Income

Monthly Mortgage Payment: \$44,806

	Income	Payment	Under/Over
Sep-Dec 2014*	\$183,087	\$150,082	\$33,005

#### Building Completion Fund

Fourth Quarter 2014 "Memorial Items Donations": \$50,211

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

Thank you for helping us "catch up." Keep up the great work!  
Please continue to 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.

## A New Year and Beginnings for the Christian Steward (Part 2 of a 2 part series)

If you are looking for some ideas for your 2015 New Year's resolutions, here are a few more to get you started:

**Nurture friendships** – Our friends are those we choose to be with, those with whom we spend our evenings, with whom we vacation, to whom we go to for advice. Friends are gifts from God who give us a greater appreciation of God's love for us. Friends need our time and love.

**Give more** – Good stewards realize that everything they have is entrusted to them as a gift to be shared. There is no better place to begin than sharing with the community that gathers around the Lord's table at Mass. Consider what you are giving to your Parish and commit to even greater contributions if circumstances allow.

**Make a difference in your Parish community** – Believe it or not, your Parish community can use your talents. Offering your talents to your faith community is one of the most effective ways to feel useful and connected to others, and it is a potentially life-changing New Year's resolution.

**Consider living more simply** – We cannot find fulfillment in possessions. They add nothing to our self-worth. Jesus blessed the "poor in spirit" in his Sermon on the Mount; and Saint Francis of Assisi urged us to live with only what was necessary, for that is how we begin to find God.

**Get healthy** – Studies show that most people in North America are accelerating their own decline into premature old age, owing to poor diet and lack of physical activity. Be a good steward of your body. If necessary, plan a complete overhaul of your diet and exercise habits.

**Don't give up** – People give up their New Year's resolutions because of perfectionism and unrealistic expectations. So take it slow, be kind to yourself and keep trying. **Resist the urge to throw your hands up and quit. You succeed through small, manageable changes over time.**

**Turn to the Lord** – Ask the Lord for guidance, strength and perseverance in achieving your resolutions. In his letter to the Philippians, Saint Paul writes: "I can do everything through God who gives me strength" (Phil 4:13). If God is the center of our New Year's resolutions, they have a better chance for ongoing success.



**Believe in yourself! Have faith in your abilities!  
Without a humble but reasonable confidence in your  
own powers, you cannot be successful or happy.**

—Norman Vincent Peale



## News & Information from the Larger Church

**Diocese of San Diego Social Ministry Office New Website:** [www.socialministrysandiego.com](http://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](http://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](http://www.IraqiChristianReliefFund.org) for more information.

**St. Augustine High School Entrance Exam**—Saturday, January 24, 8:30am. For more information or to register, contact [www.sahs.org](http://www.sahs.org) or 619-282-2184 x5521.

**St. Patrick Catholic School Open House**—Sunday, January 25, after the 9:00am Mass. The school registrar will be available to answer all of your questions. For more information, visit [www.stpaddys.org](http://www.stpaddys.org) or call 760-729-1333 x105.

**St. Vincent de Paul Ladies Guild—Lights, Camera, Action! A Tribute to the Oscars Luncheon**—Tuesday, February 17, 11:00am, Sheraton Mission Valley, 1433 Camino del Rio South, San Diego. Proceeds benefit Fr. Joe's Villages. For more information, contact Kathy at 619-423-3227 or [kathymcknly@yahoo.com](mailto:kathymcknly@yahoo.com).

**Rachel's Vineyard Post Abortion Healing Retreat in Temecula**—March 20-22, for any woman or man who has struggled with the emotional and spiritual pain of abortion. Private and confidential. For more information, contact Dolores at 951-325-7702 or [rvtemecula@verizon.net](mailto:rvtemecula@verizon.net).

**Support Shoppportunity—Catholic Charities Thrift Store**—Item donations appreciated. For more information, contact Yolanda Ungo, Program Manager, 760-631-2819.

**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](http://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](mailto:fwgrant@gmail.com).

**Mission San Luis Rey Retreat Center in Oceanside** has an ongoing schedule of retreats! Visit [www.sanluisrey.org](http://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 a weekend workshop, call 951-259-9474 or visit [www.retrosandiego.org](http://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 [davidandcherylxross@gmail.com](mailto:davidandcherylxross@gmail.com).

**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. 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](http://www.worldmeeting2015.org).

**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](http://ihradio.com/sandiego)

### Online Rosary

Pray the rosary online—visit [www.therosary3.com](http://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](http://www.CatholicsComeHome.org).

## News from St. Francis Church

525 W. Vista Way, Vista • 760-945-8000 • [stfrancis-vista.org](http://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.

**National Catholic Schools Week**—Starts Sunday, January 25, with Mass and an Open House from 8:30am-1:30pm. Throughout the week there will be special activities celebrating the Parish, local community, nation, students, faculty and staff, parents, and grandparents. Visit [www.sfs-vista.org](http://www.sfs-vista.org) for more details.



1450 SOUTH MELROSE DRIVE · OCEANSIDE, CA 92056 · PHONE: 760- 758-4100 · FAX: 760- 758-4165

[www.stmoside.org](http://www.stmoside.org) • [Parishoffice@stmoside.org](mailto:Parishoffice@stmoside.org)

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

**Parish Contacts**

Updated 01/04/2015

**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

**Liturgy .....Kathy 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..... Available
- 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 Collection..... Dcn. 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 Life..... Jane 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 760-758-8137
- 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.....	<a href="mailto:michaelr@stmoside.org">michaelr@stmoside.org</a>
Rev. Karl Bauer, Senior Priest.....	760-758-4100 x133.....	<a href="mailto:karlb@stmoside.org">karlb@stmoside.org</a>
Dcn. John Fredette.....	760-758-4100 x132.....	<a href="mailto:johnf@stmoside.org">johnf@stmoside.org</a>
Dcn. Tom Goeltz.....	760-758-4100 x100.....	<a href="mailto:thomasg@stmoside.org">thomasg@stmoside.org</a>
Sr. Maureen Brown, Pastoral Associate.....	760-758-4100 x131.....	<a href="mailto:maureenb@stmoside.org">maureenb@stmoside.org</a>
Dcn. John Fredette, Business Manager.....	760-758-4100 x104.....	<a href="mailto:johnf@stmoside.org">johnf@stmoside.org</a>
Debbie Fredette, Director of Faith Formation.....	760-758-4100 x110.....	<a href="mailto:debbief@stmoside.org">debbief@stmoside.org</a>
Matt Franklin, Youth Advocate.....	760-758-4100 x161.....	<a href="mailto:mattf@stmoside.org">mattf@stmoside.org</a>
Stacey Griffin, Faith Formation Office Assistant.....	760-758-4100 x110.....	<a href="mailto:staceyg@stmoside.org">staceyg@stmoside.org</a>
Douglas Lynn, Director of Liturgy and Music.....	760-758-4100 x140.....	<a href="mailto:douglasl@stmoside.org">douglasl@stmoside.org</a>
Kathy Santy, Assistant Music Director.....	760-758-4100 x100.....	<a href="mailto:kathys@stmoside.org">kathys@stmoside.org</a>
Sally Fay, Organist/Choir Accompanist.....	760-758-4100 x100.....	<a href="mailto:sallyf@stmoside.org">sallyf@stmoside.org</a>
Chris Smith, Director of Stewardship and Development.....	760-758-4100 x120.....	<a href="mailto:chriss@stmoside.org">chriss@stmoside.org</a>
Joe Garcia, Director of Maintenance.....	760-758-4100 x151.....	<a href="mailto:joeg@stmoside.org">joeg@stmoside.org</a>
Henny Jocelyn, Receptionist/Secretary.....	760-758-4100 x100.....	<a href="mailto:hennyj@stmoside.org">hennyj@stmoside.org</a>
Lorraine Doering, Parish Office Technician.....	760-758-4100 x102.....	<a href="mailto:lorrained@stmoside.org">lorrained@stmoside.org</a>
Brian Leahy, Director of Construction.....	760-758-4100 x152.....	<a href="mailto:brianl@stmoside.org">brianl@stmoside.org</a>

**Patronize Our Advertisers**

Thank you to our advertisers! Please patronize these merchants and let them know you saw their ad in the St. Thomas More bulletin. Any business owners are welcome to advertise their services. Please call Chris McAdams of C & M Publications at 951-776-0601. Thank you.



BRE# 01361295



**HOMESMART**  
REALTY WEST

*Making your HOME dreams  
come true since 2002*  
Honesty, Integrity & Proven Results

**Pina Shaw**  
Realtor • Parishioner  
**760.473.1227**

pinashaw@gmail.com • www.HSRealtyWest.com



**Kellogg  
Plumbing, Inc.**

Lic.# 970776

**Damon L. Kellogg**  
Custom Homes • Remodels  
Repipes • Service & Repair  
**760-497-7879**  
damon@kelloggplumbing.com

**WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO KNOW IF A FILM  
IS SUITABLE FOR YOUR CHILD'S VIEWING?**

Reviews and Ratings of both current  
and archived films are available at:  
[www.catholicnews.com/movies.htm](http://www.catholicnews.com/movies.htm)

**Know before they go**

This service is provided by the  
Catholic News Service Media Review Office  
of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops & C & M Publications



**Lady Dentist**  
Maria Elena P. Afan D.M.D.



1350 E. Vista Way, Ste. 6  
Vista, CA 92084  
**(760) 940-1011**

1010 E. Ohio Ave.  
Escondido, CA 92025  
**(760) 743-7117**

**\$80 New Patient Discount** (Exam/X-Rays & Cleaning)

Most Insurances Accepted

Open Mon.-Sat. / Evenings Tagalog Spoken/ Se Habla Español

**D & M Wholesale Flowers**

3208 La Mirada Dr. • San Marcos  
**760-410-7303**

Balloons • Roses • Arrangements • Mixed Bouquets  
House Plants • Weddings • Leis • Corsages

Flowers for all Occasions • Open to the public Mon. - Fri. 8-5 • Sat. 8-4

**HANNA  
PLUMBING**

Sales, Service, Repairs  
\$10.00 Discount on Service Calls

**726-2002**  
643 S. Santa Fe • Vista

**Free Home Inspection\***  
Heloisa Teymourian, Realtor  
**760.421.1844**

Keller Williams Carlsbad  
Buying... Selling... Investing?



Call me, I can help you!  
[www.seaandsandhomes.com](http://www.seaandsandhomes.com)  
[seaandsandhomes@gmail.com](mailto:seaandsandhomes@gmail.com)  
Se Habla Español, Falo Portugues  
\*Free home inspection credit at closing

CABRE 01956243

**AVALON  
HOME CARE**

"COMPASSIONATE  
SENIOR CARE



...BECAUSE HOME IS WHERE YOU REALLY WANT TO BE."

Hourly • 24 Hour Care • Couples Care • Hospital Sittings  
Alzheimer's Care • Errands • Cognitive Stimulation • Exercise  
Special Diet • Personal Care & Much More!

Serving All San Diego County • Parishioner Owned

Call: (760) 730-3995 Toll Free: (800) 723-4197

1207 Carlsbad Village Dr. Ste. E, Carlsbad, CA 92008  
[www.avalonhomecare.com](http://www.avalonhomecare.com)

C & M Publications is proud to print this bulletin at  
**no cost** to the Church thanks to the support of  
the local businesses found on this page.

**SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS**

For information on how you can become a sponsor  
please contact us at  
**951-776-0601**

**Our Sunday Bulletin is printed professionally, thanks to the support  
of the folks whose ads can be found on this page every week.  
Please show your appreciation for their support by  
patronizing these businesses.**

**Thank You.**

**CORAL BUILDING INC.**

- Kitchens
- Bathroom
- Additions
- Windows
- Flooring
- Painting

Licensed (#B908097) and Bonded  
1% of all contracts will be donated to the St. Thomas More Building Fund.



**Andy Frost**  
(Owner, Operator, Parishioner)  
858-245-6305 aafrost@aol.com

**German Auto Repair**  
Est. 1991  
Local Shuttle Service • Towing  
Parishioner Owned  
*European MotorSports*  
2588 Progress St. • Vista  
599-9307

**Holly Home**  
Carpets & Interiors

Lic. #367088  
**Nic DePies**

3130 South Santa Fe  
San Marcos/Vista  
(760) 727-2122

- CARPET
- WOOD
- TILE
- VINYL
- LAMINATES
- WINDOW COVERING

**Curtis E. McRae, D.D.S.**  
General Dentistry  
(760) 757-5057

3601 Vista Way, Ste. 205  
Oceanside, CA 92056  
*Cosmetic & Implant  
Dentistry*  
Parishioner

**RATAJCZAK**  
PLUMBING

**Need a plumber?  
Call 760-277-3437**

**JOHN SHAKARIAN**  
JEWELER  
since 1989

Jewelry Restoration  
Custom Design  
Jewelry Repair  
Watch Repair  
Appraisals

**WE BUY GOLD!**  
760-726-1670  
212 Main Street, Vista  
www.johnshakarianjeweler.com

*Our Family Serving Yours Since 1964*  
**ALLEN BROTHERS  
MORTUARY, INC.**  
www.allenbrothersmortuary.com

Traditional, Graveside, or Memorial Services  
Burial and Cremation Plans • **On-Site Reception Room**  
Preneed Planning and/or Arrangements  
Veterans & Social Security Assistance  
Insurance Assignments Accepted

**Vista Chapel** FD-1120 760-726-2555  
**San Marcos Chapel** FD-1378 760-744-4522

**DISCOUNT DRYWALLERS**

- Patching
- Hanging
- Taping
- Texture
- Popcorn Ceiling Removal
- Remodeling
- New Construction

(760) 294-1717

**Michel's Appliance Repair**

Whirlpool MAYTAG  
**Fair Prices**  
Open late Mon.-Sat. • Closed Sun.  
760-433-7027

**10% OFF MAJOR REPAIRS LABOR ONLY**

**Simon Valdez**  
916 Postal Way  
(760) 630-9427

Specialists Factory Trained Technicians  
All Foreign & Domestic Vehicles  
Tune-Ups • Alignments  
Computer Diagnostics

TOYOTA HONDA ACURA

**Catholic Gift Shop**  
Bibles, Books, Gifts and Sacramentals

**Holy Communion, Confirmation & Baptism Gifts**

**714 N. Coast Hwy. • Oceanside**  
(located at Harbor House Cafe)  
Annette Servi 760-822-6732  
email: peacebewithyougifts@yahoo.com  
Order online at: peacebewithyougifts.com

*Peace Be With You*

We print Holy Cards for funerals & Everyday Prayers  
Open Daily 10 am - 5 pm  
Closed Mon. & Thurs.

**10% OFF with coupon**

**Two Brothers - Italy**  
Pizza • Pasta • Subs  
We Deliver  
760-599-0088  
1651-C.S. Melrose Dr.

ASSISTED LIVING & MEMORY CARE

**AegisLiving at Shadowridge**

Exceptional Services, Outstanding Care  
Call today to schedule a tour (760) 806-3600  
1440 South Melrose Drive - www.aegisatshadowridge.com  
CRCE # 374602653

**Dignity Memorial**

**Eternal Hills Memorial Park, Mortuary & Crematory**  
1999 El Camino Real • Oceanside, CA 92054  
(760) 754-6600 FD-234

- We specialize in preplanning
- Proudly perform cremation onsite

Serving the North County community of San Diego since 1947

**PAUL V. L. CAMPO**  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

**WILLS, TRUSTS, AND PROBATE**

Graduate of Stanford University  
and UCLA School of Law

(760) 639-1680

314 South Melrose Dr., Ste. 150  
Vista, CA 92081-6669  
www.attornypaulcampo.com

**TRI-CITY CARPET**

Quality Carpet at Wholesale Prices  
1455 W. Vista Way  
Vista, CA 92083

**Bridging the Gap Between Hospital to Home**  
Serving North Coastal San Diego Since 2003

**Complete Caregiving Services**

- Homemaker
- Personal Care
- Nurse Case Manager
- Hospital Transitional Care
- Medical Monitoring

Long-Term Care Insurance Accepted

Lisa & Patrick Attardo - RN Owned  
Accredited | Licensed | Bonded | Insured

Formerly Home Helpers

**Tele-Bridge Medical**  
(866) 500-0029  
www.telebridgemedical.com

**New Patient Special**

**\$50 gift certificate**  
for St. Thomas More parishioners & friends

**Complete Dental Care in One Office**

Come in and meet our team with an introductory offer of \$50 towards any treatment when you come in for an exam and cleaning. I have 25 years experience as a Family dentist. The specialists include an Oral surgeon, Periodontal surgeon and an Endodontist.

**Dr. Michael Maksim**  
Parishioner

(760) 726-5703  
630 S. Melrose Drive, Vista CA 92081

# Memorial Item Donations

## An Opportunity to Honor or Remember...

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.

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

### Memorial Item Donations Reserved

Bell Tower	\$150,000
Church Doors (Bronze)	\$100,000
St. Thomas More Shrine (Tapestry)	\$75,000
Baptismal Font	\$75,000
Stations of the Cross	\$60,000
Tabernacle	\$50,000
Reconciliation Room	\$50,000
Stained Glass for Reconciliation Room	\$50,000
Altar	\$50,000
Marian Shrine	\$50,000
Concert Grand Piano	\$30,000
Permanent Fire Pit in Courtyard (Blessing of fire at the Easter Vigil)	\$25,000
Ambry	\$25,000
Votive Candle Alcove	\$25,000
Ambo	\$15,000
Paschal Candle Stand	\$15,000
Handbells (four-octave set)	\$15,000
Processional Cross	\$10,000
Daily Mass Altar/Chapel	\$7,500
Presider's Chair	\$5,000
Deacon's Bench	\$5,000
Cantor Stand	\$5,000
Altar Linens	\$5,000
Credence Table	\$5,000
Daily Mass Chapel/Ambo	\$4,500
Audio Visual Systems	
Microphone System	\$4,000
Memorial Garden & Reflection Garden	
10 Oak Trees in 7-foot boxes	\$25,000
Grotto	\$20,000
Bench Seating throughout gardens	\$3,500
Landscape Accent Lighting	\$3,500



### Memorial Item Donations Available

1 Pipe Organ	\$850,000
2 Crucifix	\$75,000
Memorial Garden & Reflection Garden	
3 Landscape Concrete Walkways	\$80,000
4 Decomposed Granite Pathways with Header	\$24,000
5 Melrose Landscape Slope	\$15,000
6 Building Accent Lighting & Pole Fixtures	\$14,000
7 Drinking Fountains	\$2,500
Audio Visual Systems	
8 Sound and Video Mixing Board	\$12,000
9 Video Screen (Motorized 21-foot)	\$9,000
10 Sound System Base Speaker	\$8,000
11 Sound System Cabling	\$5,000
12 Overflow Parking Lot Mulch	\$3,500

### Memorial Item Donations Partial

13 Concelebrant Chairs (6) 1 available	\$3,000/each
14 Flower Pedestals (8) 3 available	\$1,000/each
15 Wedding Kneelers (5) 1 available	\$1,000/each
16 Pew Seating for the Church (1,000) 805 available	\$300/person
17 Daily Mass Chapel and Choir Chairs (200) 117 available	\$300/each
Memorial Garden & Reflection Garden	
18 Olive Trees in 7-foot boxes (10) 7 available	\$1,400/each

12

For more information or to adopt an item, please contact  
Chris Smith, Director of Stewardship and Development  
760-758-4100 x120 or [chriss@stmoside.org](mailto:chriss@stmoside.org)



StThomasMoreRCC



1450 South Melrose Drive • Oceanside, CA 92056  
760-758-4100 • 760-758-4165 fax  
[www.stmoside.org](http://www.stmoside.org) • [parishoffice@stmoside.org](mailto:parishoffice@stmoside.org)



# Restaurant Fundraiser **SUPPORT**

St. Thomas More Catholic Church



## NUCCI'S ITALIAN CAFE

**Tuesday Jan. 20 & Wednesday Jan. 21**

for lunch or dinner and 20%  
of your food and beverage  
purchases will be donated to  
St. Thomas More Catholic Church

**Come on out for good food, company  
and support our building campaign.  
Helping your Parish never tasted so good!**

## Nucci's Italian Cafe

The Nucci Family ~ St. Thomas More Parishioners

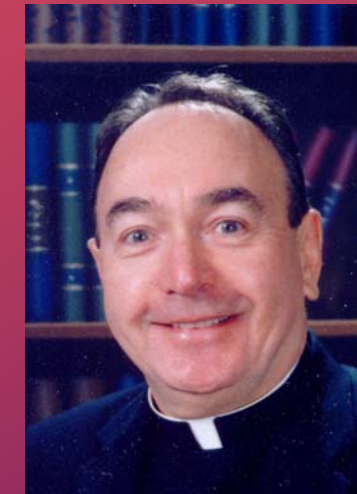
1580 S. Melrose Dr., Ste. 108, Vista, CA 92081  
760-598-1005

\* You must bring the flyer in today's bulletin for STM to receive credit for your purchase.

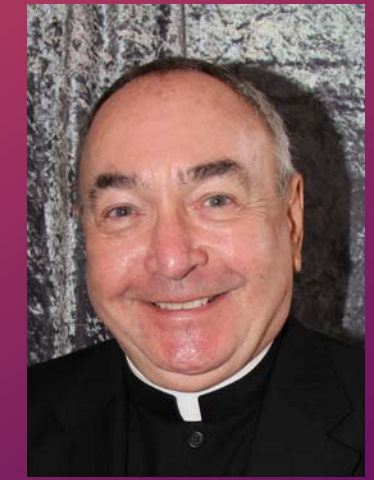
Congratulations to Fr. Mike on the  
40th Anniversary of His Ordination!



1975 - Ordination



2000 - 25th Anniversary



2015 - 40th Anniversary

Put STM on the Home Screen of Your Smartphone or Tablet!



Go to the internet on your device

Go to [www.stmoside.org](http://www.stmoside.org)

Select Menu or Send To or Bookmarks  
(depending on the brand)

Select Add to Home Screen

Adjust the description as desired

Our STM website will then be available whenever you wish!

If you need help, contact Lorraine at  
[LorraineD@stmoside.org](mailto:LorraineD@stmoside.org).

# THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY JANUARY 18-25, 2015

## PRAYER / WORSHIP: Daily Scripture & Prayer Guide

*The theme and text for each year's observance of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity are chosen and prepared by representatives of the World Council of Churches and the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity. This Joint Working Group invited the National Council of Christian Churches of Brazil (CONIC) to prepare the resources for the week of prayer 2015.*

### Day 1 It is necessary to go through Samaria (John 4:4)

---

#### Scripture

Genesis 24:10-33, Abraham and Rebekah at the well  
Psalm 42, The deer that longs for running streams  
2 Corinthians 8:1-7, The generosity of the churches of Macedonia  
John 4:1-4, He had to go through Samaria

#### Meditation

Jesus and his disciples travelled from Judea to Galilee. There was a certain prejudice against Samaria and the Samaritans. The negative reputation of Samaria came from its mix of races and religions. What does the Gospel of John mean, when saying, "it is necessary to go through Samaria"? For Jesus, it is a choice. Going through Samaria means that it is necessary to meet the other, the different, the one who is often seen as a threat.

The conflict between Jews and Samaritans was old. For Jews, Samaritans became a people "mixed and impure." Samaritans in their turn, also had difficulty accepting Jews (John 4:8). So resistance to dialogue came from the two sides.

John makes it clear that "going through Samaria" is a choice Jesus is making; he is reaching beyond his own people. In this he is showing us that isolating ourselves from those who are different and relating only to people like ourselves is a self-inflicted impoverishment. It is the dialogue with those who are different that makes us grow.

#### Prayer

God of all peoples; teach us to go through Samaria to meet our brothers and sisters from other churches! Allow us to go there with an open heart so we may learn from every church and culture! We confess that you are the source of unity. Grant us the unity that Christ wills for us. Amen.

### Day 2 Tired of the journey, Jesus sat down facing the well (John 4:6)

---

#### Scripture

Genesis 29:1-14, Jacob and Rachel at the well  
Psalm 137, How can we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land?  
1 Corinthians 1:10-18, Each one of you says, I am for Paul, or I am for Apollos  
John 4:5-6, Jesus was tired out by his journey

#### Meditation

Jesus had been in Judea before his encounter with the Samaritan woman. The Pharisees had begun to spread the word that Jesus baptized more disciples than John. Perhaps it is the reason behind Jesus' decision to leave. Arriving at the well, Jesus decides to stop. He was tired from his journey. While he was resting, a Samaritan woman came near the well to fetch water. This meeting took place at Jacob's well: a symbolic place in the life and spirituality of the people of the Bible.

A dialogue begins between the Samaritan woman and Jesus about the place of worship. "Is it on this mountain or in Jerusalem?" asks the Samaritan woman. Jesus answers, "neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem... the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him" (John 4:21- 24).

It still happens that instead of a common search for unity, competition and dispute mark the relations between the churches. Communities extol their own virtues and benefits in order to attract new members. Some think that the bigger the church, the larger its number of members, the greater its power, the closer they are to God and present themselves as the only true worshippers. As a result there has been violence and disrespect to other religions and traditions. This type of competitive marketing creates both distrust between the churches and a lack of credibility in

*continued*

society towards Christianity as a whole. As competition grows the “other” community becomes the enemy.

Who are the true worshippers? We need “wells” to lean upon, to rest and let go of disputes, competition, and violence, places where we can worship “in Spirit and in Truth.”

## Prayer

Gracious God, often our churches are led to choose the logic of competition. Forgive our sin of presumption. We are weary from this need to be first. Allow us to rest at the well. Refresh us with the water of unity drawn from our common prayer. May your Spirit who hovered over the waters of chaos bring unity from our diversity. Amen.

## Day 3

### “I have no husband” (John 4:17)

---

#### Scripture

2 Kings 17:24-34, Samaria conquered by Assyria

Psalms 139:1-12, O Lord, you have searched me and you know me

Romans 7:1-4, You have died to the law through the body of Christ

John 4:16-19, I have no husband

#### Meditation

The Samaritan woman answers Jesus: “I have no husband,” but Jesus knows the woman has had five husbands, and the man she has now is not her husband.

What is this woman’s situation? Did her husbands ask for divorce? Was she a widow? Did she have children? These questions arise naturally when dealing with this narrative. Jesus acknowledges the woman’s life but remains open to her, to encounter her. Jesus does not insist on a moral interpretation of her answer but seems to want to lead her beyond. As a result the woman’s attitude towards Jesus changes. At this point, the obstacles of cultural and religious differences fade into the background in order to give space to something much more important: an encounter in trust. Jesus’ behavior in this moment allows us to open new windows and raise further questions, questions about the differences which stand in the way of the unity we seek and for which we pray.

## Prayer

O you who are beyond all things, how could we call you by any other name? What song could be sung for you? No word can express you. What Spirit can perceive you? No intelligence can comprehend you. You alone are inexpressible. All that is said has come from you. You alone are unknowable. All that is thought has come from you. All creatures proclaim you, those who speak and those who are

dumb. Every one desires you. Everyone sighs and aspires after you. All that exists prays to you and every being that can contemplate your universe raises to you a silent hymn. Have pity on us, you who are beyond all things. How could we call you by any other name? Amen. (Attributed to Gregory of Nazianzus.)

## Day 4

### Then the woman left her water jar (John 4:28)

---

#### Scripture

Genesis 11:31–12:4, God promises to make Abram a great nation and a blessing

Psalms 23, The Lord is my shepherd

Acts 10:9-20, What God has made clean, you must not call profane

John 4:25-28, Then the woman left her water jar

#### Meditation

The encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman shows that dialogue with the different, the stranger, the unfamiliar, can be life-giving. That day, for some reason, the Samaritan woman did not follow the established rules. Both she and Jesus broke with conventional patterns of behavior. They showed us again that it is possible to build new relationships.

As Jesus completes the work of the Father, the Samaritan woman, for her part, leaves her water jar, meaning that she could go further in her life; she was not confined to the role society imposed on her. When she leaves behind her water jar she signals that she has found a greater gift, a greater good than the water she came for, and a better place to be within her community. She recognizes the greater gift that this Jewish stranger, Jesus, is offering her. It is difficult for us to find value, to recognize as good, or even holy, that which is unknown to us and that which belongs to another. However, recognizing the gifts that belong to the other as good and as holy is a necessary step towards the visible unity we seek.

## Prayer

Loving God, help us to learn from Jesus and the Samaritan that the encounter with the other opens for us new horizons of grace. Help us to break through our limits and embrace new challenges. Help us to go beyond fear in following the call of your Son. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.



## Day 5

### You have no bucket and the well is deep (John 4:11)

---

#### Scripture

Genesis 46:1-7, God tells Jacob not to be afraid of going down to Egypt

Psalms 133, How good it is when kindred live together in unity

Acts 2:1-11, The day of Pentecost

John 4:7-15, You have no bucket and the well is deep

#### Meditation

Jesus needed help. Exhausted in the heat of noon, he feels hungry and thirsty (John 4:6). Yet it is he who is in a foreign territory and the well belongs to the woman's people. Jesus is thirsty and, as the Samaritan woman points out, he has no bucket to draw water. He needs water, he needs her help: everybody needs help!

Many Christians believe that they alone have all the answers and they need no help from anyone else. We lose a lot if we maintain this perspective. We need the help of our Christian brothers and sisters. Only then can we reach into the depths of the mystery of God.

A common point in our faith, regardless of the church to which we belong, is that God is mystery beyond our comprehension. The search for Christian unity brings us to the recognition that no community has all the means to reach into the deep waters of the divine. We need water, we need help: everybody needs help! The more we grow in unity, share our buckets and join the pieces of our ropes, the deeper we delve into the well of the divine.

Brazilian indigenous traditions teach us to learn from the wisdom of the elderly, and at the same time, from the curiosity and innocence of infants. When we are ready to accept that we do need each other, we become like children, open to learn. And that's how God's Kingdom opens for us (Matthew 18:3). We must do as Jesus did. We must take the initiative to enter into a foreign land, where we become a stranger, and cultivate the desire to learn from one another.

#### Prayer

God, Spring of the Living Water, help us to understand that the more we join together the pieces of our ropes, the more deeply our buckets reach into your divine waters! Awaken us to the truth that the gifts of the other are an expression of your unfathomable mystery. And make us sit at the well together to drink from your water which gathers us in unity and peace. We ask this in the name of your son Jesus Christ, who asked the Samaritan woman to give him water for his thirst. Amen.

## Day 6

### Jesus said: The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life (John 4:14)

---

#### Scripture

Exodus 2:15-22, Moses at the well of Midian

Psalms 91, The song of those who take refuge in the Lord

1 John 4:16-21, Perfect love casts out fear

John 4:11-15, A spring of water welling up to eternal life

#### Meditation

The dialogue that begins with Jesus asking for water becomes a dialogue in which Jesus promises water. Jesus will again ask for a drink. "I thirst," from the cross, and from the cross Jesus becomes the promised fountain of water which flows from his pierced side. We receive this water from Jesus in baptism, and it becomes a water, a life that wells up within us to be given and shared with others.

Sister Romi, a nurse from Campo Grande, was a pastor in the Pentecostal tradition. One Sunday night, all alone in a shack, in Romi's neighborhood a sixteen year old indigenous girl gave birth to a baby boy. She was found lying on the floor and bleeding. Sister Romi took her to the hospital. Enquiries were made—where was Simei's family? They were found, but they did not want to know. Semei and her child had no home to go to. Sister Romi took them into her own modest home. Semei continued to have health problems, but Sister Romi's great generosity brought forth further generosity from her neighbors. Semei named her son Luke Nathaniel and in time they were able to move away from the city to a farm, but she did not forget the kindness of Sister Romi and her neighbors.

The water that Jesus gives, the water that Sister Romi received in baptism, became in her a spring of water and an offer of life to Semei and her child. Prompted by her witness, this same baptismal water became a spring, a fountain, in the lives of Romi's neighbors. The water of baptism springing into life becomes an ecumenical witness of Christian love in action, a foretaste of the eternal life which Jesus promises. Concrete gestures like these practiced by ordinary people are what we need in order to grow in fellowship. They give witness to the Gospel and relevance to ecumenical relations.

#### Prayer

Triune God, following the example of Jesus make us witnesses to your love. Grant us to become instruments of justice, peace, and solidarity. May your Spirit move us towards concrete actions that lead to unity. May walls be transformed into bridges. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ in the unity of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## Day 7

### Give me to drink (John 4:7-15)

---

#### Scripture

Numbers 20:1-11, The Israelites at Meribah

Psalms 119:10-20, I will not forget your word

Romans 15:2-7, May God ... grant you to live in harmony  
with one another

John 4:7-15, Give me to drink

#### Meditation

Christians should be confident that encountering and exchanging experiences with other religious traditions can change us and help us to reach into the depths of the well. Approaching those who are strangers to us with the desire to drink from their well, opens to us the “wonders of God” that we proclaim.

In the wilderness God’s people were without water and God sent Moses and Aaron to bring water forth from the rock. In the same way God often meets our needs through others and so we need to turn also to them, and ask, “Give me to drink.”

Sometimes the answer to our need is already in the life and goodwill of the people around us. The Guarany people of Brazil have no equivalent word for the term “religion” as separate from the rest of life. The expression literally means “our good way of being” (“ñande reko katu”) It refers to the whole cultural system, which includes religion. Religion, therefore, is part of the Guarany cultural system, as well as their way of thinking and being (teko). It relates to all that improves and develops the community and leads to its “good way of being” (teko katu). These people remind us that Christianity was first called “The Way” (Acts 9:2). “The Way,” or “our good way of being” is God’s way of bringing harmony to all parts of our lives.

#### Prayer

God of life, who cares for all creation, and calls us to justice and peace, may our security not come from arms, but from respect. May our force not be of violence, but of love. May our wealth not be in money, but in sharing. May our path not be of ambition, but of justice. May our victory not be from vengeance, but in forgiveness. May our unity not be in the quest of power, but in vulnerable witness to do your will. Open and confident, may we defend the dignity of all creation, sharing, today and forever, the bread of solidarity, justice, and peace. This we ask in the name of Jesus, your holy Son, our brother, who, as victim of our violence, even from the heights of the cross, gave forgiveness to us all.

Amen.

## Day 8

### Many believed because of the woman’s testimony (John 4:39)

---

#### Scripture

Exodus 3:13-15, Moses at the Burning Bush

Psalms 30, The Lord restores us to life

Romans 10:14-17, How beautiful are the feet of those who  
bring good news

John 4:27-30, 39-40, Many believed because of the  
woman’s testimony.

#### Meditation

With her heart transformed, the Samaritan woman goes out in mission. She announces that she has found the Messiah. Many believed in Jesus because of her witness. The force of her witness stems from the transformation of her life caused by her encounter with Jesus. Thanks to her openness, she recognized in that stranger “a spring of water welling up to eternal life” (John 4:14).

Mission is a key element of Christian faith. Every Christian is called to announce the name of the Lord. Pope Francis told missionaries, “wherever you may go, it would do you well to think that the Spirit of God always gets there ahead of us.” Mission is not proselytism. Those who truly announce Jesus approach others in loving dialogue, open to mutual learning, and respecting difference. Our mission requires us to learn to drink from the living water without taking hold of the well. The well does not belong to us. Rather, we draw life from the well of living water which is given by Christ.

Our mission must be a work both of word and witness. We seek to live out what we proclaim. The late Brazilian Archbishop Helder Camara once said that “many have become atheists because they have become disillusioned by people of faith who do not practice what they preach.” The witness of the woman led her community to believe in Jesus because her brothers and sisters saw coherence between her words and her own transformation. If our word and witness is authentic, the world will hear and believe. “How are they to believe if they have not heard?” (Rom 10:15).

#### Prayer

God, Spring of Living Water, make of us witnesses of unity through both our words and our lives. Help us to understand that we are not the owners of the well, and give us the wisdom to welcome the same grace in one another. Transform our hearts and our lives so that we might be genuine bearers of the Good News. And lead us always to the encounter the other, as an encounter with you. We ask this in the name of your Son Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit. Amen.