

**SAINT
THOMAS
MORE
CATHOLIC
CHURCH**



The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

—John 10:11



*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



Hot Dog Sunday!

**\$5 for a hot dog, chips,
and drink**

**Proceeds benefit the Knights of
Columbus charity projects.**

**Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 26, 2015**

Pastor's Column

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

No Room in the Inn?

“We are called to be builders of bridges by bringing into the very heart of the Church and society those so often condemned to live or die on the periphery – the poor and the homeless of our nation and our world, the unborn, victims of sexual trafficking and abuse, especially clergy sexual abuse; the aged and disabled, those who are incarcerated. We are called to build bridges which span the partisan divides that now frequently separate these issues of human dignity into warring camps, and to foster an ecclesial culture which sees with the clarity of Mother Teresa and Dorothy Day that all forms of marginalization which deny the dignity of the human person are antithetical to the Gospel and repugnant to God.”

The above words are taken from Bishop Robert McElroy’s Installation Mass on April 15, 2015 when he became the Bishop of San Diego.

The phrase that struck me was “those so often condemned to live or die on the periphery...” There are so many people, in so many ways, for so many reasons who live on the periphery of our Church, our families, our neighborhoods, our cities...

The San Diego Organizing Project (SDOP) of which our Parish is an active member is focused on reaching out, through the efforts of a variety of faith communities, to those who are on the peripheries and try to help create pathways to assist them in making their way into the fabric of the community.

The issue that SDOP is presently focused on is the “In Lieu Fee” for developers within the City of Oceanside.

Oceanside’s inclusionary zoning ordinance requires developers building more than 4 units to build 10% of their units as affordable housing. Affordable Housing is a huge need in Oceanside which is 2,707 units below the state-mandated number of lower-income and low-income houses we are required to have in the city.

If the developer doesn’t want to build the affordable units, they have the option to pay a per-unit “In Lieu Fee.” In 2003, the fee per unit was \$10,275. There was a schedule for this fee to rise along with inflation and the rising cost of living – rising to \$18,150 by 2004 – but the fee was frozen at \$10,275 in 2003. This is lower than all surrounding cities (Carlsbad’s is \$20,000) and at the low end state-wide.

In the following years, the City Council, by a 3-2 vote decided to practically eliminate the fee, cutting it to \$1,500.

Susan Tinsky of the San Diego Housing Federation called this “precedent setting in terms of the ‘In Lieu Fee’...this is a new low for the inclusionary housing programs, both regionally and statewide and nationally.”

(Continued on page 2)

Pastor's Column (continued from page 1)

Estimated loss of affordable housing funding since this cut is \$3.3 million. Since \$1 of local funding can be leveraged with state and federal funding, this amounts to over \$30 million lost revenue that could have been used to make up the 2,707 unit gap.

The Oceanside City Council is now re-evaluating the "In Lieu Fee" and there is the hope that they may do so.

SDOP is requesting that the Oceanside Council introduce an ordinance to restore the "In Lieu Fee" to at least its level prior to the cut.

SDOP member congregations and clergy fully support the restoration of this fee, and are organizing to publically support its restoration.

What will the restoration of the "In Lieu Fee" do? It will help to bring those who are on the periphery of our community into the fabric of our community.

Think about all of our landscapers, housekeepers, maintenance personnel, hotel housekeepers, etc. who help to keep our Oceanside Community and economy moving forward; yet, the majority of these people cannot afford to buy a home in the community in which they work. They are on the periphery of our community and we need to assist them to bring them into the fabric of our community.

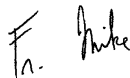
We are 2,707 units below the state-mandated number of affordable housing units we are required to have in our city!

Is there not "Room in the Inn" for our brothers and sisters? Are we no better than the Innkeeper who put the Holy Family in a stable in which Jesus was born? Have we not gotten direction from that Nativity Account?

If you would like to help our brothers and sisters come in from the periphery, *I encourage you to join me at a meeting with the Mayor of Oceanside, Jim Wood, on Thursday, April 30, at 7:00pm at Mission San Luis Rey in the Dining Room of the Mission. Please join me!*

If you would like more information, please contact Sr. Maureen or me.

There is "Room in the Inn!"



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 April 21 we have netted \$54,352 from this program. Thank you donors!



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

Welcome New Parishioners

Jason & Stephanie Galvez & Family
Michael Shoemaker & Erin Johnson & Family

In Memoriam



Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Ralph Mueller, who died April 19. His Funeral services were held on Friday, April 24, at Mission San Luis Rey. Please keep his family in your prayers.

Steve Calder, who died on April 16. His Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday, April 28, at 11:00am at St. Thomas More. Please keep his family in your prayers.

Maria Mata, who died on April 13. Her funeral arrangements are pending. Please keep her family in your prayers.

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

Local Hospitals with Catholic Chaplains Available

If you or a loved one is in one of these hospitals and need the ministry of a Catholic priest, please contact the Chaplain's Office to make the arrangements.

Hospital	Chaplain's Office
Tri-City	760-940-7954
Palomar	442-281-1328
Scripps Encinitas	760-633-7784
Scripps Green	858-554-3698
Scripps Mercy	619-260-7020
UCSD Thornton	619-543-2103
Kaiser Zion	619-528-5188

Vocations

Jesus said to his disciples in today's Gospel: "Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached in his name to all the nations..." But in order to spread the good news, workers are required. Do you feel a call to the priesthood, diaconate, or religious life? Do you want to help spread the good news of Jesus Christ to all the nations? Explore the possibilities and contact Deacon Tom at thomasgoeltz@aol.com or 760-727-8442. They are challenging and exciting ways of life.

Considering Becoming Catholic?

Are you beginning to search for a deeper meaning and purpose in your life? Would you like to explore a spiritual dimension inside yourself? Do you have a yearning to experience God in your life? You are invited to join our group of "seekers" who are just beginning to discover the joy of knowing God. We meet two Saturdays a month from 3:30-4:45pm and **you** are most welcome! For more information, contact Kathleen Bell at 760-809-6526 or 80bell80@gmail.com.

Readings for the Week Ahead

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

Sunday, April 26 (50)
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Acts 4:8-12
Psalm 118:1,8-9,21-23,26,28-29
1 John 3:1-2
John 10:11-18

Monday, April 27 (279)
Acts 11:1-18
Psalm 42:2-3;43:3-4
John 10:1-10

Tuesday, April 28 (280)
Acts: 11:19-26
Psalm 87:1b-7
John 10:22-30

Wednesday, April 29 (281)
Catherine of Siena, virgin, doctor
Acts 12:24-13:5a
Psalm 67:2-3,5-6,8
John 12:44-50

Thursday, April 30 (282)
Acts 13:26-33
Psalm 126:1b-689:2-3,21-22,25,27
John 13:16-20

Friday, May 1 (283)
Colossians 1:24-29
Psalm 2:6-11ab
John 14:1-6

Saturday, May 2 (555)
Athanasius, bishop, doctor
Acts 13:44-52
Psalm 98:1-4
John 14:7-14

Sunday, April 26 (53)
Fifth Sunday of Easter
Acts 9:26-31
Psalm 22:26-28,30-32
1 John 3:18-24
John 15:1-8

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

Changa Aguilera
Ernie Aichele
Mary Alexander
Carrie Autrey
Joshua Avery
Jose Luis Barbosa
Patricia Barbour
Francie Barron
Gerry Barton
Clarice Bednarz
John Bennici
Regina Bentz
Lisa Berg
Roseanne Berg
Mary Betz
Betty Jean Bielich
Zane Breier
Beth Brewer
Hannah Bronson
Janet Brown
Sr. Maureen Brown
Todd Brown
Katie Browne
Jack & Mary Bruzas
Anita Buerger
The Calderone Family
Shelby Campbell
Brianna Campos
Aria Cappeluti
Kathleen Carr
Jorge Cartajena
Donald Cashmore
The Vaughn Clevenger Family
Dolly Cole
Carl & Dorothy Coleman
James Coleman
Angelica Conde
Steven Cresencia
Lené Crowe
Karen Flaharty Daley
Beverly de Gelder
Nick Del Sesto
Fr. Larry Delaney
Hugo Delgado, Jr.
Cassandra D'Ercole
Christine DeSantis
Cecilia DeSimone
Carole Dillon
Edward Dolnik
Art & Dave Dossman
La Vonne Dumas
Marge Egan
Jerome Elbacha
Carolyn Erickson Ey
Chris Esper
Danielle Esper
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
The Garth Family
Jack & Marge Gillen
Wendy Gonzales' Dad
Rick Gonzalez
Tillie Gonzalez
George Gritt
Luke Guenst
Susan Hallahan
Pat & Tom Hannon
The Harker Family
Dorothy Harrison
Barbara Hatem
Heidi Heaton
Lilian Hills
Samara Hook
Susan Hori
Tina Hunter
The Hyde Family
Iolanda Iacobelli
Bradley Johnson
Sue Johnston
Ed Kalenda
Laura Kater
Dottie Kearney
Paul Kennedy
Connor Kerzie
Peggy Kiernan
Debbie Kinney
Mark Kneisel
Fujiko Kodama
Dewey Kolbo
Tony Korwin
Bob Kranz
Helen Kuhn
Lillian Lachance
The Lamelin Family
Bart Landry
Brandon LeBlanc
Jeremiah Lemus
The Paul Leué Family
The Lew Family
Ashley Load
Cassandra & Lauren Loretto
Jack Lucarelli
Lisa Lynn
Joaquín Maldonado
The Maldonado Family
The Maldonado Trejo Family
Paige Mansell
Alexander Mathews
Gloria Maupin
Colleen McCall
Virginia McConnell
Ann McMahan
Bob McWilliams
Joyce Meehan
Kalei Mendiola
Rita Mikridge
Tom Miller
Phyllis Minaya
June Mitchell
June Montgomery
Nancy Moore
Elizabeth Muehlbacher
The Mueller Family
Conrad Murphy
Margie Myers
Angela Nacional
Melanie Nacional
Nida Navarro
Richard Obsitnik
Kare O'Dell
Laura Paciorek Gloor
Bernadette Padovan
Ethan Palm
Helen Pingtella
Perry Postulka
The Joe Prokop Family
Bettie Provinse
Bernie Ptak
Barbara Ramm
Evelyn Richards
Jan Riley
Connie Ringel
Rita Ritchie
Lily Robinson
Maria Rogers
The Russo Family
Rachel Sainc
Cindy Sanelli
Loida Santiago
Linda Schmidt
James Setters
Joan Shea
Elizabeth Shirzad
The Shilling Family
Tom Simonson
Nick Soltau
Drew Spangler
Darek, Vanessa, & Elba Spizewski
Don St. Pierre
Patricia St. Pierre
Sybil Staples
Mike Sterling
Laura Bernard Stover, MD
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
Lucy Viramontes
Vanessa Vitiello
Wilson Wanner
Kevin Watson-Graff
Jerry Wechsler
Lee Welch
Carmella Wilson
Patricia Zavala
Jeanne Zeltner

Calendar Highlights

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

- Apr 26 Liturgy of the Word for Children at 8:30am Mass
- Apr 26 Knights of Columbus Hot Dog Fundraiser
- May 1 STM Gala
- May 3 Liturgy of the Word for Children at 8:30am and 10:30am Masses
- May 9 Faith in Fashion Ladies & Teens Fashion Show
- May 23 Confirmation at 5:00pm Mass
- Jun 12-14 Parish Campout
- Jun 22-26 Vacation Bible Camp
- Jul 19 Pastor's Dinner
- Jul 24-26 Steubenville San Diego

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

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
- Gy Sgt Julian Fyffe, USMC
- MSGT Steve Gallegos, USMC
- Sgt. Alex Garcia
- Adolfo Granados, MD, U.S. Navy
- PFC Samuel Haro, US Army
- Sr. Airman Stephan LaMothe
- PFC Cody Madere
- Jordan Millikan
- 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.

April 27
Sr. M. Ursula Doherty, RSM
April 28
Sr. Mary Agnes Dombroski, DMML
April 29
Sr. Maria Dowhaniuk, SFCC
April 30
Sr. James Louise Downey, OP
May 1
Sr. Margaret Doyle, SHCJ
May 2
Sr. Elizabeth Drew, SHCJ
May 3
Sr. Ann Marie Durano, MC

Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 25, 5:00pm Anna Mae & Marie Lavelle ☩
Sunday, April 26, 8:30am George Franklin ☩
Sunday, April 26, 10:30am Frank Saputo ☩
Monday, April 27, 8:15am Anthony Masseth ☩
Tuesday, April 28, 8:15am Joseph Conroy ☩
Wednesday, April 29, 8:15am Celine Summer ☩
Thursday, April 30, 8:15am Beatrice Hein ☩
Friday, May 1, 8:15am Owen Fredette ☩
Saturday, May 2, 5:00pm Ellen Fresca ☩
Sunday, May 3, 8:30am Sue Welch ☩
Sunday, May 3, 10:30am Susan Coffin Prestie ☩

Social Ministries & Outreach

Support Affordable Housing

St. Thomas More is an active part of the San Diego Organizing Project (SDOP), a faith-based, non-partisan, non-profit organization dedicated to building a powerful voice of faith for justice in San Diego County. Jim Wood, the mayor of Oceanside, will attend an SDOP action on Thursday, April 30, at 7:00pm at Mission San Luis Rey in the Dining Room of the Mission. SDOP will request that the mayor support the funding of affordable housing in Oceanside by restoring the recently cut in-lieu fees that provide the majority of the local dollars that build affordable housing.

Please join Fr. Mike at this event as we raise the voice of the church for justice!

St. Bonaventure Clothing Drive

Winter is over and spring is here. Contemplating doing away with the old wardrobe and breaking in the new? Every November STM holds a clothing drive to help the poor on the Navajo Reservation in New Mexico through St. Bonaventure Indian Mission. If you have good used shoes and clothing that you will not be using, please set it aside for us. If storage is a problem, contact Deacon Tom at thomasgoeltz@aol.com or 760-727-8442. Clothing for all ages is desperately needed...and blankets as well.

In Memory of Our Children

There are many of us in this Parish community who have suffered the loss of a child. Some of us have chosen to contribute toward sponsoring an olive tree in our Memorial Garden. In fact, our fundraising efforts have been successful enough sponsor part of a second tree. If you have suffered the loss of a child and want to join this effort, or if you would like to support these bereaved parents, please contact Maureen Tutino at 760-598-8211 or mtutino@sbcglobal.net or Steve & Marilyn Lilly at 760-598-3304 or stevelilly@cox.net. We would appreciate anything you can do to help with the olive trees dedicated to our children in heaven. —*Maureen Tutino*

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!



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

Marriage & Family Life

World Meeting of Families 2015—

The World Meeting of Families (WMOF) will take place in Philadelphia from September 22-27, 2015. The preparatory catechesis is available for purchase and is a great resource for reflecting on the theme: "Love Is Our Mission." USCCB staff is offering reflections based on the catechesis for WMOF on the Marriage, Unique for a Reason (MUR) blog. On the internet, go to <http://www.marriageuniqueforareason.org/category/world-meeting-of-families/>.



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! There are many events throughout the month posted on our private Facebook page. Join us! Contact Jen Abelson at jen.abelson@gmail.com.

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.

Bishops' Letter on Marriage—Society's Challenges: "We recognize that couples face many challenges to building and sustaining a strong marriage. Some challenges, however, are fundamental in the sense that they are directed at the very meaning and purposes of marriage. (Here) we want to discuss four such challenges: contraception, same-sex unions, divorce, and cohabitation." To read the document go to <http://www.usccb.org/loveandlife/>.

Marriage Moments—Favor your beloved. Call to mind a recent favor your spouse has done for you. Think of a treat you can offer your beloved today.

Parenting Pointers— "A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." (John 10:11) A good parent is like a good shepherd. We spend our time, money, and worries on our children. In essence, we lay down our lives for their good. Remember that you as a parent also have The Good Shepherd who cares for you in the same way.

For more information, visit www.diocese-sdiego.org/Ministries/

Young Adult Opportunities around the Diocese

Theology on Tap—Mondays in April at Off Shore Tavern, 2253 Morena Blvd., San Diego. Speaker and topics TBA.

For more information, visit www.yamsd.org.

Rosary

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



Parish Events

Women's Guild News

Can it be that we are already looking at the end of April and the beginning of May this week? That means it is time to call our Hospitality chair Very Bayliss to make reservations for our May 11 luncheon: 760-295-0059 or vbayliss@cox.net. After a very active month of activities, we look forward to a pleasant presentation by our very own Sr. Maureen and a slideshow viewing of our past year highlighting the members and themes celebrated all year. At the meeting, the Quilt group will also be displaying the quilts they made to be raffled off at the Installation luncheon in June. If you win and are present at the luncheon, you will be able to pick which quilt will be your own. Other winners will have theirs chosen by a drawing among winners. Tickets will be sent to all Parishioners in May, and reservations for the June Installation luncheon will begin at the May meeting.

We would be remiss if we did not mention the fabulous time we had at the "Mad Hatter Tea" last week. The extravagant, beautiful, hand-made and period hats alone were worth coming to see; but the creative, pretty table settings, theme decorations and video, plus the hand made food selections made the day elegant and fun. The superb service of our three servers, the Fredette sisters, treated us to a relaxing, enjoyable day. We thank all who contributed in any way to making it such a success, especially Kathy Gerhard who chaired the event with her committee.

While enjoying this Easter season, let us remember that May is the month of our Mother Mary, and it begins on Friday.

—Ann Buko, president

Catholic Widows and Widowers of North County

On Sunday, April 26, CWWNC will gather HERE for communal Mass at 10:30am followed by lunch at Nucci's. This is a great opportunity for prospective members to get acquainted with our group. On the second Sunday of each month we meet for a general meeting and potluck at various areas in North County. Check the bulletin board on the lower level of the Parish Center for our calendar of events including bowling, bocce ball, golf, dining out, hiking, and more! RSVPs are required. For more info. call Carol Kope (760-726-0533) or Gerri Wilmott (760-758-9949).

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

1. Online—visit stmoside.org/scrip.html and look for the slider with the ShopwithScrip logo 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 GALA 2015

Friday, May 1
4:30-9:30pm

STM Social Event
of the Year!

We look forward to
seeing all those who
signed up!



For those with reservations,
Happy Hour at 4:30pm
Dinner at 6:15pm.

Visit www.stmoside.org/gala for this year's menu.
Vegetarian option available upon request

**If you are not able to attend,
we are still accepting donations
to offset expenses
or to renew 2014 sponsor signs
by Thursday, April 30!**



Plus reserve your spot for the **Pastor's Dinner**
Sunday, July 19 ★ 3:00-6:00 p.m.
Green Dragon Tavern & Museum, Carlsbad
*A replica of Boston's original Green Dragon Tavern
frequented by Sam Adams, Paul Revere, and others*
\$150/per person (\$75 tax deductible)

**For information, please contact Chris Smith
760-758-4100 x120 or chriss@stmoside.org**

Low Vision Seminar and Technology Fair

Thursday, April 30, 9:30am-2:30pm, Braille Institute, 4555 Executive Dr., San Diego. RSVP required, as space is limited. Snacks will be provided. Learn about the latest advances in macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, and glaucoma, plus the benefits of magnification and accessible technology. To make a reservation or for more information, contact Ann Eriksson at 760-599-7151.

Liturgy & Music Worship God

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

REMAIN IN ME AND I IN YOU

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

In these days of email, texting, Twitter, and Facebook, personal letters have become a rare but precious commodity. To receive a letter is to know that someone has taken time to share with you their thoughts, experience, hopes, and plans. At times, such personal letters can actually be a portal to the soul.

We are fortunate to have so many letters left to us from believers in times past. The letters of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, for example, reveal his struggle to be brave and bold as the Third Reich was spreading its hatred and evil throughout Europe. In the correspondence of St. Teresa of Avila, the reader can sense her burning desire to reform her community despite opposition from her sisters and from those in authority. Perusing the letters of Teilhard de Chardin will leave one in awe of a soul whose capacity to know God would not be appreciated until years after his death. Mother Teresa, who was clear in her wishes that her letters not be made public, is revealed in her correspondence as one who, like St. John of God, experienced the pain of not knowing the presence and consolation of God. Yet, this experience was never reflected in her outer work as she tended the poor of Kolkata with love and kindness.

In their letters, people often seem to say things they would not have said aloud; they feel free to do so in the “privacy” of the written word. Letters often became treasured keepsakes that we revisit from time to time in order to renew the memories they hold. On each Sunday of the liturgical year, believers have the opportunity to revisit the letters through which members of the early church communicated and encouraged one another in the faith.

scripture themes for May

This month, those letters have been written by an adherent to the Johannine tradition (May 3, 10, 17) and by Paul (May 24, 31). Each excerpt from these letters was motivated by a similar idea. Even though Jesus is risen, he remains with each of us, and we remain in him. A special word in John’s unique vocabulary, “remain” or *menein* can also mean “to abide,” “to stay,” and “to dwell on.” *Menein* appears a total of 68 times in the Johannine literature and 118 times in the New Testament. John used the term “to express the permanency of the relationship between Father and Son, and between the Son and the Christian” (Raymond E. Brown, *The Gospel According to John*, Doubleday, New York: 1966). This relationship, according to John, is based on immanence: a remaining-in-one-another that binds together Father, Son, and believer—not only for a while, but permanently. This mutual indwelling is possible because God and Jesus have sent the Spirit to remain with the church, as well as individual believers, forever. But the union or “remaining in” of which John wrote did not identify God and humankind (as in pantheism). Rather, Christians are one with each other on the pattern of the oneness of Father and Son; John never suggests that believers become God, even in an ecstatic way.

Perhaps the closest New Testament parallel to the Johannine theology of immanence can be heard in Paul’s letters, where he speaks of “being in Christ” and “Christ in us.” In Romans 8:9, Paul says that the Spirit of God dwells in the Christian, while in John 14:16-17, the fourth evangelist speaks of the Paraclete remaining with or in the disciples of Jesus.



John 10:17-18

The letters and the Gospels we read this month will challenge us to a way of life lived in love, which we are to do as a consequence of the divine gift of indwelling and as a reflection of that union. This will include keeping the commandments, loving God above all and our neighbor as ourselves; living as children of God and not as fearful slaves; and preserving our union with Jesus as branches grafted by God on the true vine. Our union with God, whose love is universal, will also require us to be equally magnanimous in our acceptance of all others. Like God, without partiality, we are to welcome those of other cultures and beliefs; we are to honor and care for immigrants from poorer countries, as well as political refugees. God sent the Son as expiation for our sins and for the sins of *all* humankind. This same God hears the cries of the poor and expects that we, who are begotten of God, will also hear them and attend to their needs. When we do, we become authentic witnesses to the God who dwells within us. When we do not behold and attend to others as God does, then we live a lie. Our witness is false.

The choice is ours. The grace to act comes from God, who daily says to us, “Remain in me and I will remain in you.”

Upcoming Music

✠

MAY 3
5th Sunday of
Easter

✠

5:00pm

Cantor &
 Congregation

8:30am

Sanctuary Choir

10:30am

Praise Team

Faith Formation

Teach and Live the Gospel

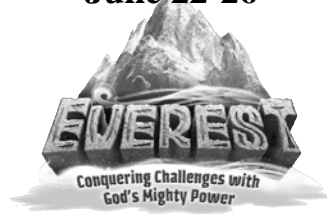
Matt Franklin
Youth Advocate
760-758-4100 x161; mattf@stmoside.org

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

Family Faith Formation

Today is a REACH Sunday!

VBS 2015
June 22-26

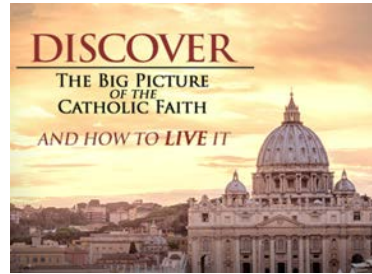


Kids Wanted

Register today for a week of faith and fun!
Contact the Faith Formation Office or grab a registration form from the website to sign up today!

Adult Faith Formation

SIGN UP TODAY!!



JOIN US FOR Ten Sessions of SYMBOLON

Wednesday Mornings
Beginning May 6
9:00-11:00am
Pre-Registration is required
Contact Patt Goeltz
pattg@stmoside.org

Faith In Fashion

Discovering the Beauty Within You
Ladies & Teens Fashion Show & Luncheon

Saturday May 9
10:00am-12:30pm

Sign Up Today! Tickets Will Not Be Sold at the Door
All Proceeds Will Benefit
The Youth Ministry of Our Parish

COMING SOON!



Join Us
Thursday Evenings
Beginning June 4
7:00-9:00pm
Pre-Registration is required

Sacrament Prep News

Mandatory Parent Meeting for First Communion 2015
Sunday, May 3
12:30-2:00pm
Upper Level



M3 Confirmation 2015
Families & Sponsors Plan to Attend 5:00pm
Mass on Saturday, May 2 and stay for a message and potluck



Do You Want to Know the Bible Better? The Great Adventure Bible Study Featuring Jeff Cavins

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

LITTLE BOOKS FOR THE EASTER SEASON
Are Now Available for Purchase
They make great gifts for loved ones at Easter!

Teens

Youth Group "LIFE NIGHT"

Monday Evenings
7:00-8:30pm

Find Out What You've Been Missing, Cuz We've Been Missing YOU!

Wednesday Night Guys/Girls Book Study

Wednesday Evenings
6:30-8:00pm

Crazy Love

By Frances Chan

Steubenville San Diego

July 24-26

Spaces Are Limited
Sign Up Today for This Amazing Weekend!



SCHOLARSHIPS NEEDED!

Are you able to financially help an STM teen going to the Steubenville Conference? Can you help make this life changing experience happen for our teens?

Contact Debbie in the Faith Formation Office for more information.

Stewardship & Development

Serve God's People

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

TOWERS OF FAITH

Future Support & Estate Planning Options

Towers of Faith is a movement that has arisen due to the visionary leadership and generosity of several of our Parishioners. We stress that this is not about the gift amount, but rather the love and thought behind the gift.

These individuals (*several anonymous*) have included STM in their estate planning. This helps to ensure their ongoing support and a legacy for our Parish. *Towers of Faith* is a valuable portion of our future support.

Examples of the various future planning vehicles are:

**Designated Beneficiary Accounts,
 Last Will and Testament, Living Trust, Life Insurance,
 Stocks and Bonds, Real Estate, and Endowments.**

Any parishioners who have already included STM in their estate plans are *Towers of Faith* participants. If you are interested, please contact us. Your participation is most welcome and appreciated!

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

Do two people in your family know the location of your will and/or living trust?

Please Check Next Week
 for Updated Figures. Thank you!

Mortgage/Building Completion Fund Income

September 15, 2014 to March 31, 2015

Mortgage Offering Collected	\$296,882.91
Less Administrative Costs	\$14,581.00
Payment toward Parish Reserves (10%)	\$28,230.19
Payment toward Mortgage	\$254,071.72
Mortgage Payment Due	\$284,501.26
Mortgage Payment Overage/(Shortfall)	(\$30,429.54)

Memorial Items	\$111,796.00
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Please continue to support the
 Mortgage/Building Completion Fund!

Called to Be Merciful—Annual Catholic Appeal

Assessment:	\$48,000
Collected to Date:	\$37,666
Families Pledged:	225
Average Pledge:	\$167.40

You can help! Visit stmoside.org for more information.

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.

Stewardship Thoughts During the Easter Season

ANYWAY

People are unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered,

LOVE THEM ANYWAY

If you do good, people will accuse you of
 selfish, ulterior motives,

DO GOOD ANYWAY

If you are successful, you win false friends
 and true enemies,

SUCCEED ANYWAY

The good you do will be forgotten tomorrow,

DO GOOD ANYWAY

Honesty and frankness make
 you vulnerable,

BE HONEST AND FRANK ANYWAY

What you spent years building
 may be destroyed overnight,

BUILD ANYWAY

People really need help but may attack
 you if you help them,

HELP PEOPLE ANYWAY

Give the world the best you have and
 you'll get kicked in the teeth,

GIVE THE WORLD THE BEST YOU'VE GOT ANYWAY.

—from a sign on the wall of Shishu Vhavan,
 the children's home in Calcutta

The Simple Path

The fruit of silence is prayer.

The fruit of prayer is faith

The fruit of faith is love.

The fruit of love is service

The fruit of service is peace.

—Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta



Memorial Item Donations Available

Pipe Organ	\$850,000
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
Drinking Fountains	\$2,500
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

Memorial Item Donations Partial

Pew Seating for the Church (1,000) 795 available	\$300/each
Daily Mass Chapel and Choir Chairs (200) 108 available	\$300/each

04/21/15

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 chriss@stmoside.org



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

News & Information from the Larger Church

After Abortion Healing Retreat for Catholic Women (or Catholic Friendly)—May 1-3, given by Rachel's Hope at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 3888 Paducah Dr., San Diego. For more information, contact Rosemary Benbefield at (858-581-3022 or visit www.RachelsHope.org.

Birth Choice Ladies Luncheon and Fundraiser—Saturday, May 2, 11:00am-3:00pm, Green Dragon Tavern, and Museum, 6115 Paseo del Norte, Carlsbad. Cindy Tobin will be the speaker. For information and reservations, contact 760-744-1313 or visit www.birthchoicedonors.net, Events.

Miles Christi Silent Weekend Retreat—May 7-9 for women, June 26-28 for men, at Prince of Peace Abbey in Oceanside. The retreat follows the *Spiritual Exercises* of St. Ignacius of Loyola. For more information, visit mileschristi.org or call 858-768-0872.

Franciscan Vision Series: Francis of Assisi: Praying the Our Father Backwards—Thursday, May 14, 7:00pm, Clare Chapel, San Luis Rey Retreat Center, 4050 Mission Ave., Oceanside. For more information, contact Gabriela Billings at 760-547-1800 x204 or gbillings@fst.edu.

Wine, Women, & Shoes Event Benefiting Voices for Children—Saturday, May 16, 3:00-6:00pm, private estate in Mission Hills, San Diego. For more information, visit <http://www.winewomenandshoes.com/voicesforchildren>.

Beginning Experience Weekend for Widowed, Divorced, and Separated—June 5-7 at Whispering Winds Catholic Camp in Julian. For more information, contact Linda at 858-335-0915 or Cathy at 619-222-9093.

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

Catholic Radio—AM 1000/Sirius 130—San Diego

Visit ihradio.com/sandiego

Catholics Come Home

Do you have a family member, friend, or co-worker who has left the Catholic Church? If so, encourage them to visit www.CatholicsComeHome.org.

News from St. Francis Church

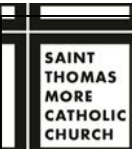
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- Parishioner priority for enrollment at St. Francis School,
- Equal tuition rates,
- Financial aid opportunities, and
- Fundraising support.

"A Closer Look" Tours Continue

For more information, please contact Chris Smith at chriss@stmoside.org or 760-758-4100 x120.



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www.stmoside.org • Parishoffice@stmoside.org

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

Parish Contacts

Updated 02/10/2015

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 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 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..... Andrea Spencer 760-560-6540
- Family Services..... Rev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100
- Marriage Preparation..... Rev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100
- Widows & Widowers of North County..... Carol Kope 760-726-0533
 - Germaine Wilmott 760-758-9949

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

- Annual Gala Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120
- Historian/Archives Brandon Oswald 760-845-5450
- Knights of Columbus Andrew Frost 858-245-6305
- Social Activities Henny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100
- Spirited Seniors Jim & Marilyn Day 760-509-4545

- Treasures Rummage Sale.....John & Wendy Murphy 760-497-6117
- Walking Ministry Diane Pal 760-815-2519
- Women’s Guild..... Ann Buko 760-726-8831
- Social Ministries Cherie & Greg Abrahms 760-598-6776**
- Blood Drive Stacey & Morgan Espe 760-224-2699
- Brother Benno’s CollectionDcn. Tom Goeltz 760-727-8442
- Brother Benno’s Kitchen Server George Jones 760-940-9288
- Christmas Angel Ministry Kevin & Lisa Seufert 760-732-5965
- CPR/AED Classes..... Phil Goscienski 760-732-1414
- Culture of LifeJane Kelleher 760-822-7041
- Disability Facilitation Ann Eriksson 760-599-7151
- Jail Ministry Rita McCarthy 760-758-4100 x100
- Prayer Request Line..... Pat Wong 760-806-1310
 - Norma Flanagan 760-630-0180
- Project Linus..... Mary Coxon 760-599-8760
- Social Justice Committee Henri Black 760-758-8137
 - 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 760-758-4100 x1703
- Planned Giving Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120
- Publicity/Public Relations..... Jane Gladden 760-659-6168
- Scrip Sales Mike Nichols 760-727-7522
 - Andrea Sweeney 760-216-6389
- Stewardship Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120
- Vehicle Donations..... Diana Diaz 760-758-4100 x100
- Welcome Ministry Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120

Pastoral Staff

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

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Most Reverend Robert W. McElroy Mass of Installation Homily

April 15, 2015



*Visit www.diocese-sdiego.org
to see a video of the homily.*

In January of this year, America was riveted for nine days as Tommy Caldwell and Kevin Jorgeson set out to accomplish a task that for over three decades had been labeled impossible—free climbing the dawn wall of El Capitan in Yosemite Valley.

Free climbing means using only one's hands and feet to ascend a rock's natural features, while employing ropes and other gear only to stop a fall. For two years Tommy and Kevin had mapped out their strategy for conquering each of the thirty two pitches, or sections of El Capitan, ingeniously creating routes that relied upon a miniscule number of natural crevices in the almost sheer granite of the dawn wall. Over these two years, they had forged both a deep friendship and a mutual partnership that relied at some moments on Tommy's greater skill in climbing and at other moments on Kevin's optimism and athleticism. They began their climb as a team and resolved that no matter what happened they would complete it as a team.

Over the first six days they made it up fourteen grueling pitches, and on the seventh day Tommy Caldwell, the more experienced climber, made it up the fifteenth pitch, which is the most treacherous section of the dawn wall.

But Kevin Jorgeson remained trapped on the fifteenth pitch. For the next four days he fell time and again in his effort to overcome the flawlessly smooth face of this most difficult section of El Capitan. Now time became the enemy for both climbers, because the longer they remain exposed on the wall the more likely that a bad weather front would move in and end the climb for both of them.

Kevin was aware that he was holding Tommy back, and he pleaded with his friend and mentor to abandon him and move onward so that at least one of them might conquer the dawn wall. But Tommy Caldwell would not move on; more than anything he wanted them both to finish together as they had started together. For a total of ten days he stood with Kevin Jorgeson as Jorgeson tried to overcome the fifteenth pitch, and Tommy made clear that he would never abandon his friend. Miraculously, on the eleventh day Kevin Jorgeson conquered the fifteenth pitch, and they began to move up the final one thousand feet together, accompanying each other until they reached the plateau where their families and the world were waiting.

The grace of mutual accompaniment. This was the real miracle that occurred on El Capitan in January of this year. And it is this grace of mutual accompaniment that must form the heart of the relationship of a bishop with his local church.

This year we celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the close of the Second Vatican Council, the great grace to the Church in the twentieth century. The Council used magnificent images to describe the Church: the field of God; the mystical body; the sheep gate, the holy temple of God. But the overriding conciliar image of the Church emerges in today's second reading from the first letter of Peter: you are "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation...who in times past were not a people but now are the people of God." The council teaches that the church is constantly on a pilgrimage toward the heavenly kingdom, guided always by the lord.

This image of the Church as the pilgrim people of God demands that the ministry of a bishop be enmeshed in a culture of mutual accompaniment that suffuses the local church. The theological foundation for this culture of mutual accompaniment lies in the priesthood of all believers and the universal call to holiness. The most important religious identity for disciples of the lord consists not in any particular office that they hold, or any status in orders or consecrated life, but in the grace of baptism which brings membership in the church. Saint Augustine expressed this reality clearly: for you I am a bishop; with you I am a Christian.

Pope Francis has movingly described the elements of Christian accompaniment: it is rooted in a sense of the sacredness of the other and requires a continual stance of listening. Accompaniment reflects the closeness and compassionate gaze of Christ which heals, liberates and encourages growth in the life of the gospel. Accompaniment embraces prudence, understanding, patience and openness to the spirit. Most importantly of all mutual accompaniment demands a sense of collaboration among the bishop, the priests who are his primary collaborators, lay leaders, those in consecrated life and the diaconal community in a manner which deepens the unity of the people of God and increases the harvest of the Gospel within the local Church.

As I begin my ministry of service in this magnificent local church of San Diego, I pray that it will always be shaped by this vision of mutual accompaniment. And I pray that this will be especially true in facing three central challenges which the scriptures and the universal church place before us at this moment in the history of our diocese.

The first of these challenges is the proclamation of the unlimited mercy of God.

We have just celebrated Divine Mercy Sunday, which Pope John Paul II established as a witness to the centrality of mercy in the life of the church. Pope Benedict captured the essence of this theme when he taught that “mercy is the central nucleus of God’s message; it is the very name of God, the face with which he revealed himself in the old covenant and fully in Jesus Christ....”

In today’s Gospel we see that face of mercy as Jesus encounters the apostles for the first time after they deserted him at the time of his arrest, leaving Christ to face death alone. Like the father in the parable of the prodigal son, Jesus’ words are not of criticism or

reproach, but only of mercy, acceptance and joy. “Peace be with you. As the father has sent me, I am sending you. Then he breathed on them and said “receive the holy spirit.”

If this is the paradigm for God’s mercy, then as Pope Francis concluded last Sunday in his proclamation of the jubilee year, mercy must be “the very foundation of the church’s life. All of her pastoral activity should be caught up in the tenderness she makes present to believers; nothing in her preaching and in her witness to the world can be lacking in mercy.” This does not mean evacuating the moral law of its substance and challenge. But it must mean that the Church is called to follow the pastoral pattern of the lord himself toward all those he encountered in the gospels: first embracing them with loving mercy, then healing their wounds, and only then proclaiming the moral law of reform.

This is the pastoral paradigm that flows from the recognition that we cannot know fully the mystery or the culpability of the other. This is the paradigm which “reflects the fragrance of Christ’s closeness and personal gaze.” This is the paradigm that banishes judgmentalism and affirms that showing mercy is a fundamental criterion for ascertaining who God’s children truly are in the life of the church and the world.

A second challenge for our ecclesial community is always to witness to the grace of God which is present in the cultural diversity of the church.

The chosen race, the royal priesthood spoken of in today’s second reading draws from and unites the disparate peoples of the world. Just as the first fruits of the spirit on the day of Pentecost were reflected in the assembly of thousands of men and women from every nation who embraced the gospel of Jesus Christ and were baptized, so the community of Christ’s church is called to embody and cherish this element of catholicity.

In the diocese of San Diego, virtually every nationality and culture is vibrantly present—Hispanics, Filipinos, Irish, Native Americans, Vietnamese, Italians, African Americans, Poles, Chinese, Germans, Portuguese and Japanese.

This diversity constitutes a powerful gift of the Holy Spirit palpably present here in our midst. There can be no more fitting place to begin my ministry of accompaniment in witnessing to God’s presence among us than by pointing to the gift that this diversity brings to our diocese, and by fostering an

ecclesial culture that honors unity and diversity equally in forging this body of Christ.

One important element of witnessing to the grace of God present in the cultural richness of this local church is to reclaim our border with Mexico as a bond which unites us to the whole of the Americas, rather than as a barrier which divides us. This requires comprehensive immigration reform as a fundamental foundation for justice in our society. But just as importantly, it requires a recognition of the grace that immigrants from Latin America have provided to California, as well as a recovery of our understanding that in its essence the united states is a nation of immigrants whose greatness does not lie in ties of blood but in the ideals of freedom and justice that weld our nation together.

A third challenge to our local church is to seek to be a builder of bridges in our contemporary world. Today's first reading from the Book of Genesis points to the beauty of God's design for humanity—the dignity of the human person made in the image of God, the unity of the human family, and the gift of the created order as the legacy of all. Yet the world we experience in so many ways shatters these fundamental elements of the divine plan, leaving us broken and separated, alienated and factionalized. A ministry of accompaniment rooted in the Gospel must reach out to society to repair these fractures, and must constantly build new bridges to recreate the unity of the human family and protect human dignity as God has intended.

We are called to be builders of bridges by bringing into the very heart of the church and society those so often condemned to live or die on the periphery – the poor and the homeless of our nation and our world, the unborn, victims of sexual trafficking and abuse, especially clergy sexual abuse; the aged and disabled, those who are incarcerated. We are called to build bridges which span the partisan divides that now frequently separate these issues of human dignity into warring camps, and to foster an ecclesial culture which sees with the clarity of Mother Teresa and Dorothy day that all forms of marginalization which deny the dignity of the human person are antithetical to the Gospel and repugnant to God.

As the people of God we must build bridges which reflect the teaching of the church that we Catholics are not called to separate from culture, nor to be coopted by our culture, nor to war against our culture, but to embrace our culture with a powerful

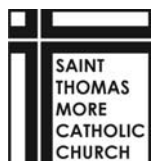
and transformative love rooted in the gospel. Catholic social teaching proclaims that culture is a spiritual enterprise to be cherished, with legitimate autonomy for science and academic inquiry, and a dedication both to freedom and moral responsibility.

As a catholic community, we must build bridges with the religious communities of San Diego and Imperial Counties, so that the church contributes to an ecumenical and interreligious culture which testifies to our common witness to the transcendent.

And as a builder of bridges, we must foster pathways both within and outside the Catholic community to rebuild the shattered civic and political unity of our nation which is essential to the realization of the common good for our society and our world.

Finally, I would hope that as a hallmark of the work of the church in the next five years, we will be especially dedicated to building bridges to the young adults of Imperial and San Diego counties, understanding that the church can often seem distant or uninterested in their lives. These bridges must reach out to young adults at our universities, to those who grow our food, to the young adults who defend our freedom through military service, to those who work long hours in the vibrant but often exhausting jobs which propel our local economy, and to those who are still struggling to find their place in the world. These bridges to our young adult communities must speak piercingly of the personal love of God, of the joy of the gospel and of the fulfillment which comes from genuine missionary discipleship.

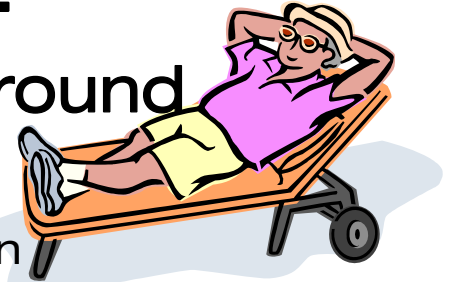
Seeking to build a culture of mutual accompaniment, proclaiming the extravagant mercy of God, witnessing to the grace of cultural diversity, building bridges to reflect God's vision for the human family—these are central elements of the work that God has set before us at this moment in the history of our local Church. With human eyes these challenges can seem even more impossible than free climbing El Capitan. But in our faith we are called to see the world not with human eyes, but with the vision of grace rooted in the Gospel. And we are called to journey forth from this beautiful Church today as pilgrims together, accompanying one another, not knowing at times exactly where we are going, but knowing that ultimately it is God who leads us and that in the end that is more than enough.





St. Thomas More Parish Campout June 12-14

Woods Valley Kampground
Valley Center



Check in—Friday at Noon
Check out—Sunday at Noon

**\$66 per site
for the weekend**

We'll take reservations until May 10

- We have a wonderfully shady area with 20 sites located near the pool. Water and electric hookups at the sites and flush toilets and showers are available in the campground.
- There is a pond for the kids to fish in. Near the pond is a play area. Of course the pool is there for swimming. A hay ride is provided on Saturday evenings.
- On Saturday, we can walk to Bates Nut Farm, about one mile up the road. There are animals to feed and great gift, fruit and nut shops.
- Saturday afternoon at 4:00pm we will celebrate Mass at the campsite.
- After Mass we will provide the barbeque where everyone can grill their own meat. We'll have a side dish, salad, and dessert potluck.
- Campfires in the evenings, of course!



**Come and join us for fun,
Fellowship, and relaxation!**



Please contact Michael Haubert
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if you have any questions.