

"And here the first word that I wish to say to you: joy!

Do not be men and women of sadness:

a Christian can never be sad!

Never give way to discouragement!

Ours is not a joy born of having many possessions,

but of having encountered a Person:

Jesus, in our midst."



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









The Baptism of the Lord January 10, 2016

— Pope Francis, The Church of Mercy



When Jesus had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened.

-Luke 3:21

Baptism of Christ by John Nava Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels

Pastor's Column

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

Gratitude and Intentionality

This weekend, as we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, we close out the Christmas Season.

It is with a heart full of gratitude that I continue to thank God for having the opportunity to celebrate the Advent/Christmas/Epiphany Seasons with you, St. Thomas More Catholic Church. This was my 13th Christmas with you as your Pastor!

This community is truly an "intentional" community. Everyone who is here truly wants to be here, and desires to enter into the celebration of the Mysteries of our Faith.

That "intentionality" is so evident in all that we do as a community—from active participation "in the pews," to those who serve in various liturgical ministries in the Eucharistic Celebrations, to those who are "in the background" helping to "prepare the space and the ritual" for our celebrations, and to all who are involved in the over 100 ministries we undertake in order to be faithful members of the Body of Christ in our outreach to each other and to the wider community.

All this takes much effort and sacrifice on the part of many people. Schedules and agendas need to change or to be adjusted in order to make the Faith Community of St. Thomas More a priority. Please know that I am aware of that and know that, as your Pastor, you strengthen not only my ministry, but also, my Faith, as I see Parishioners "being serious" about their Faith-life.

Your intentionality "feeds" me, as a pastor, as I, hopefully, feed you through leading you in the celebration of the Eucharist and breaking open the Word of God with you through my homilies. Of course, in all these efforts, we know that it is the Lord who feeds us. We are God's instruments.

(Continued on page 2)

"Did You Know?"

Your opportunity to help us keep our budget balanced.

See the insert with built-in envelope!

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Pastor's Column (continued from page 1)

Thank you to each and every one of you who helped to make the celebration of these liturgical seasons once again so prayerful and meaningful. Know that my heart is filled with gratitude.

I will not single out any persons or groups. When that is done, so often, someone is missed. You know who you are and what you have done. I know that the Lord is pleased!

As all of us make the necessary efforts and sacrifices in order to continue to live our community life here prayerfully and meaningfully, be mindful that we do so for the Lord, in order to give our God praise and thanksgiving.

At times, our efforts may be taken for granted or go unnoticed. We may be hurt or discouraged at times. Yes, it is nice to be recognized and acknowledged, but that is not the reason that we do what we do. All of our individual efforts come together in a community effort to give our Loving Creator praise and thanksgiving. When we keep that focus, our hurt and discouragement will dissipate.

One of the many challenges that we face as a community is to preserve this sense of intentionality. As we continue to grow in numbers and as we are now in our Church Home, our House of Worship, and as we now in 2016 work to build our Parish Offices, we must resolve to make greater efforts in the area of hospitality, welcome, and personal invitation into the life of the community. I know that we can and will do that!

As we are mindful of our Baptismal Promises this weekend, we, once again, "intention" ourselves to follow the Lord Jesus and to be active members of the Body of Christ here at St. Thomas More Catholic Church.

Considering Becoming Catholic?

Has Pope Francis ignited a spark in you to know more about the Catholic faith and become a member of the Church he shepherds?

If you are already Catholic, perhaps you have a new enthusiasm for your faith that you would like to share with a friend or family member who is searching.

Our lives sometimes go through seasons of change, of closeness to God and distance from God. Yet the Father's love is steadfast, full of mercy, and ever-present to those who seek with a sincere heart, no matter what sins or situations have caused separation.

If you have thought about becoming Catholic and beginning a new "season" in your life, contact Kathleen Bell, 760-809-6526, 80bell80@gmail.com.

On the Trail of Martin Luther: Lutherans, Catholics, and the Reformation— An Ecumenical Celebration of Christ August 31-September 10, 2016 with Fr. Rich Lewandowski

Destination Germany continues to celebrate Martin Luther's legacy, 500 years of Reformation, and Luther's impact on the Church and world history.

Follow in the footsteps of the reformer and visit places across the country where he lived and practiced his beliefs.

Brochures for this pilgrimage are available in the Parish Office.

Welcome New Parishioners Michael Gonzales

Robert & Bonnie Krichbaum

Congratulations to

Gary & Carolyn Mertes

who celebrated their 52nd anniversary of marriage December 28.

Tim & Lia Keane

who celebrated their 22nd anniversary of marriage January 1.

Harold & Barbara Miller

who celebrated their 39th anniversary of marriage January 8.

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

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

Facing a Hospital Stay?

If you or someone you know is planning a hospital stay or ends up in the hospital, marking the "Catholic" box on the registration form ensures that the Catholic Chaplain assigned to the hospital will know the patient is Catholic. You may also want to request a visit by the Catholic Chaplain. Most hospitals also have teams of ministers from local Parishes who bring Holy Communion to Catholic patients.

Vocations

As we begin a new year, let us turn our mind and ear to God, prayerfully listen to him, and resolve to do that which God is calling us to do. If you think God is calling you to a life as a priest, deacon, or religious, explore the possibilities. They are great vocations, full of challenges, and rewarding. To help you get started, contact a priest, sister, deacon, or Deacon Tom at thomasgoeltz@aol.com or 760-727-8442, and May God bless you throughout this new year.

Our Mission is to:

worship God,

teach and live the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and serve God's people in word and deed.

Readings for the Week Ahead

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

Sunday, January 10 (21) The Baptism of the Lord Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7 Psalm 29:1-4,9-10 Acts 10:34-38 Luke 3:15-16,21-22 Monday, January 11 (305)

1 Samuel 1:1-8 Psalm 116:12-19 Mark 1:14-20

Tuesday, January 12 (306) 1 Samuel 1:9-20 1 Samuel 2:1,4-8 (Psalm)

Mark 1:21-28

Wednesday, January 13 (512) Hilary, bishop, doctor 1 John 2:18-25

Psalm 110:1-4 Matthew 5:13-19

Thursday, January 14 (308) 1 Samuel 4:1-11

Psalm 44:10-11,14-15,24-25 Mark 1:40-45

Friday, January 15 (309) 1 Samuel 8:4-7,10-22a Psalm 89:16-19

Mark 2:1-12 Saturday, January 16 (310) 1 Samuel 9:1-4,17-19;10:1a Psalm 21:2-7 Mark 2:13-17

Sunday, January 17 (66) Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 62:1-5 Psalm 96:1-3,7-10 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 John 2:1-11

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 9, 5:00pm Pietro DeAngelis &

Sunday, January 10, 8:30am Richard Lynn &

Sunday, January 10, 10:30am Cesarina Morelli &

Monday, January 11, 8:15am Aloysius Kane

Tuesday, January 12, 8:15am Linda Stirpe &

Wednesday, January 13, 8:15am Cheri Gallante &

Thursday, January 14, 8:15am Joe Coccaro P

Friday, January 15, 8:15am Faye Dixon &

Saturday, January 16, 5:00pm Tony Caldarone

Sunday, January 17, 8:30am Fr. Larry Delaney &

Sunday, January 17, 10:30am Mario Vozza 🕈

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

Changa Aguilera Ernie Aichele Mary Alexander Bill Ames Frank Austin Carrie Autrey Joshua Avery Gretchen Baker Rosemary Ballard Dee Barakman Jose Luis Barbosa Patricia Barbour Francie Barron Clarice Bednarz Clarice Bednarz
John Bennici
Regina Bentz
Lisa Berg
Roseanne Berg
Mary Betz
Betty Jean Bielich Pieter Boets & Family Joshua Breier Zane Breier Beth Brewer Janet Brown Todd Brown Acia Carpelloti Aria Cappeluti Jorge Cartajena Donald Cashmore Anne Caymood
The Vaughn Clevenger Family
Carl & Dorothy Coleman
Judy Colson
Judy Colson Geoff Coolidge
Steven Cresencia
Lené Crowe
Karen Flaharty Daley Raren Flaharty Daley
Beverly de Gelder
Velia Deal & Family
Nick Del Sesto
Paul Del Vecchio
Hugo Delgado, Jr.
Cassandra D'Ercole
Christine DeSantis
Cecilia DeSimone
David de Villenueve
Carole Dillon
JoEllen Doering
Elizabeth Doherty's Aunt Jackie
Art & Dave Dossman
La Vonne Dumas
Harlan Dunn
Marge Egan Marge Egan Jerome Elbacha Jerome Elbacha
Arthur Eral
Carolyn Erickson Ey
Victoria Lopez Fenton
The Fiore Family
Fr. James Flanagan
Mary Fleming
Ryan Flum
Ernie Follis
Eugene Franciscus
Kathryn Franklin
The Greg French Family
Brian Frink
Jim Gallagher Brian Frink
Jim Gallagher
The Joe Garcia Family
Kathy Gardner
Joan Gay
Alyssa Gerhard
Jack & Marge Gillen
Merle Glime
The Godfrey Family
Wendy Gonzales' Dad
Rick Gonzalez
Tillie Gonzalez
Lou Gordon
George Grift Cou Goldon George Gritt Fred Gritzen and Family Luke Guenst Susan Hallahan Pat & Tom Hannon The Harker Family

The Harker Family Dorothy Harrison Barbara Hatem Bill & Mary Haynes Lilian Hills Lisa (Lynn) Hodges Samara Hook Susan Hori

Iolanda Iacobelli Sue Johnston

Laura Kater

Dottie Kearney The Kennedy Family Connor Kerzie Peggy Kiernan Debbie Kinney Mark Kneisel Dewey Kolbo Tony Korwin Tony Korwin
Helen Kuhn
Lillian Lachance
The Lamelin Family
Bart Landry
Brandon LeBlanc
Jake Lefferdink
Jeremiah Lemus
Ashley Load
Cassandra & Lauren Loretto
Jack Lucarelli
Joaquin Maldonado
The Maldonado Family
The Maldonado Treio Family The Maldonado Family
The Maldonado Trejo Family
Paige Mansell
Angeles Martinez
The Matthews & Woodard Families
Gloria Maupin
Colleen McCall
Virginia McConnell
The McGinley Family
Ann McMahan
Bob McWilliams
Joyce Meehan
Kalei Mendiola
Rita Mikridoe Kálei Mendiola Rita Mikridge Tom Miller Phyllis Minava June Mitchell Judy Mitchell's Mother June Montgomery Nancy Moore Elizabeth Muehlbacher Conrad Murphy Margie Myers Angela Nacional Melanie Nacional Mida Navarro Nida Navarro Richard Obsitnik Kare O'Dell Josephina Ornelas Laura Paciorek Gloor Ethan Palm Cynthia Pearson Salina Pearson Cyntina Pearson
Salina Pearson
Elisa Petrie
Helen Pingtella
Delilah Plasterer
Perry Postulka
The Joe Prokop Family
Barbara Ramm
Jenni Richard
Evelyn Richards
Jan Riley
Rita Ritchie
Lily Robinson
Maria Rogers
Louis Russo
The Russo Family
Rachel Sainc
Cindy Sanelli Rachel Sainc
Cindy Sanelli
Lori Sanna
Linda Schmidt
Joan Shea
Elizabeth Shirzad
Nick Soltau
Bob Sorenson
Drew Spangler
Darek, Vanessa, & Elba Spizewski
Don St. Pierre
Patricia St. Pierre
Sybil Staples
Mike Sterling
Lucas Story
Laura Bernard Stover, MD
Pete Sullivan
Julie Teare Tele Sullivan
Julie Teare
Tommy & Ginger Thompson
Sarah Tillinghast
William Tompson
Stephen Toth, Jr.
Olivia Train Stephen Toth, Jr.
Olivia Trejo
The Trejo/Beltran Family
The Trejo/Maldonado/Uribe Family
Martin Vertson
Lucy Vienna
Lucy Viramontes
Vanessa Vitiello
Wilson Wanner
Kevin Watson-Graff
Jerry Wechsler
The Williams Family
Patricia Zavala
Jeanne Zeltner

Calendar Highlights

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

Jan 10	Liturgy of the Word for
	Children at 8:30am and
	10:30am Masses
Jan 13	Adult CPR/AED Class
Jan 13	Matthew Bible Study
Jan 14	Symbolon Bible Study
	Infant/Child CPR/AED
Jan 16	
T 16 21	Class
Jan 16-31	Stewardship Awareness
Jan 17	Liturgy of the Word for
	Children at 8:30am and
	10:30am Masses
Jan 17	RE.A.CH Classes
Jan 17	Presentation on <i>Laudato Si</i>
Jan 19-20	Restaurant Fundraiser at
	Nucci's
Jan 23	Walk for Life in Balboa Park
Jan 23	Adult CPR/AED Class
Jan 24	RE.A.CH Classes
Feb 10	Ash Wednesday
1 00 10	Masses at 8:15am,
Mar 13	12:00noon, and 7:00pm
	New Member Reception
Apr 10	Spring Sing
Apr 16	Spring Ring
Apr 29	STM Gala
May 8	Confirmation
Jun 20-24	Vacation Bible School

Deployed Military

Gunnery Sgt. Fernando Andrade, Jr. Lt. Devon Czarzasty Capt. Branden M. Felker, USAF Patrick G. Felker, USN Grant Fischer Cpt. Ryan J. Fullmer, USMC MSGT Steve Gallegos, USMC Sgt. Alex Garcia Adolfo Granados, MD, U.S. Navy PFC Samuel Haro, US Army Cpl Caleb Lemons, USMC PFC Cody Madere Jordan Millikan 1st Lt. Jennifer Mozzetta Jeremiah Gabriel Nelson, USAF Thomas Kevin Nelson, US Navy Fireman Griffin Joseph Ochoa, 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.

January 11 Sr. Maria Dowhaniuk, SFCC
January 12
Sr. James Louise Downey, OP
January 13
Sr. Ann Durst, SHCJ
January 14
Sr. Ann Marie Dutano, MC
January 15
Sr. Ray Monda DuVall, CHS
January 16
Sr. Ray Monda DuVall, CHS
January 17
Sr. Mary Agnes Emanuel, MC

Social Ministries & Outreach

San Diego Walk for Life 2016

We hope you'll join us on Saturday, January 23, for the Fourth Annual San Diego Walk for Life. Each year this event draws together an incredible group of speakers and powerful lineup of prolife exhibitors for an event that allows participants to celebrate life and to pray for an end to abortion.

Held 9:00am-12:00noon at Balboa Park, the San Diego Walk for Life will feature life-affirming speakers and praise and worship music, and there will be familyfriendly activities the day of the event.



Brother Benno's...St. Bonaventure Indian Mission

In this new year, a year dedicated to mercy, please remember the less fortunate. Support them with your prayers and continuing generosity...and may God bless you with his choicest blessings throughout this new year.

STM Mental Health Ministry Network

Are you interested in participating in the Ministry team of the STM Mental Health Ministry Network to help serve as "prayerful companions" for fellow Parishioners experiencing mental health issues, walking with them through the treatment process, and helping to provide Parish-wide education on the subject of mental illness? For more information, contact Tim Keane at 760-758-2717; for referrals, contact Deacon John at 760-758-4100 x104.

Jail/Detention Ministry

Jesus said, "I was in prison and you visited me. What you did for the least of these you did for me." To volunteer and bring the gifts of presence, compassion, hope, and love to those in prison, call Rita at 760-758-4100 x100. For more information, visit www.diocese-sdiego.org/restore, where you will find information on not only visiting those in prison, but ways to provide support for victims or their families and ways to get involved with victim/ offender mediation and reconciliation.

Heartnotes

There will be an Infant/Child CPR/AED class on Saturday, January 16, 9:30am-1:00pm.

Adult CPR/AED classes are scheduled for Wednesday January 13 at 1:00pm and Saturday, January 23 at 9:30am.

February Adult CPR/AED classes are scheduled for Saturdays, February 13 and 20, at 9:30am. Reserve your place at *drphilg@cox.net* or 760-732-1414.

Marriage & Family Life

Moms & Kids—Are you a mom with infant through 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! Contact Jen Abelson at <code>jen.abelson@gmail.com</code> for the



time and location of our next park play date on Monday, January 18, 3:00-5:00pm. There are also many events throughout the month posted on our private Facebook page. Join us!

Natural Family Planning—Have you heard about NFP and aren't quite sure what it is? Are you interested in learning more about Natural Family Planning? Contact Cheryl and Dave Ross at *davidandcherylross@gmail.com* to learn more about the various NFP methods and determine which method is right for you and your family.

Beloved Series—Deacon John and Debbie Fredette will be presenting a 12-part series Wednesday evenings, beginning January 20 at 7:00pm. Learn first hand how to experience the mystery, happiness and joy of marriage. *Beloved* will help you live out the Sacrament of Marriage more profoundly, so that your love story is drawn ever more into the greatest love story of all... God's own love for us. Contact Debbie Fredette at 760-758-4100 x110 for additional information.

Restoring Marriage Today—Destination: San Diego. Marriage is fundamental to mankind. But it's in serious trouble. Find out how you can be part of the solution. The Catholic Answers Conference, Restoring Marriage Today, will be held in San Diego March 3-5. For more information and to register, go to: https://catholiccom.formstack.com/forms/ca_conference_2016.

Bishops' Letter on Marriage—Unitive and Procreative: "Conjugal love expresses the unitive meaning of marriage in such a way as to show how this meaning is ordered toward the equally obvious procreative meaning. The unitive meaning is distorted if the procreative meaning is deliberately disavowed...Likewise, the procreative meaning of marriage is degraded without the unitive." To read the document go to https://www.usccb.org/loveandlife/.

Marriage Moments—Spiritual Gifts include: wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, accomplishments, prophecy, good judgement, communication skills, understanding... (1 Cor 12:4-11). Which of these gifts is your beloved especially good at?

Parenting Pointers— "How, in this materialistic, competitive world, can I raise kind children?...Begin by being a kind adult. When your child sees you go the extra mile to help a friend, carry someone's groceries, or invite people in to your life who aren't exactly like you, your child will see loving kindness as the natural way to live" (Mimi Doe).

For more information, visit *www.diocese-sdiego.org*/Ministries/Marriage and Family Life or call Jen Frost at 858-692-7438.

Ways to Help Support Your Parish

We offer a variety of options for easier giving: extra mail-back envelopes included in your packet or credit card and automatic checking/savings account deductions by signing up in the office or online. For more information, contact the Parish Office at 760-758-4100 x100 or parishoffice@stmoside.org. To sign up online, visit www.stmoside.org, then click on Donations, then Online Giving.

Parish Events

Women's Guild News

The new year is upon us and what a blessing to have celebrated the birth of Our Lord in our new church we have worked so hard to build! Our work is not done, of course, and we have many opportunities to make it less of a task and more of an enjoyable venture. Here are upcoming events you are sure to find fun and exciting:

Our January 11 monthly meeting's theme is our traditional Chinese Auction, so bring some items you no longer need but are in good condition. Call Anna Robinson, Hospitality Chair, at 760-842-5205 **today** to reserve your spot for the luncheon. We advise coming a little early so that the auctioneers have time to set up and display your auction donations. The meeting starts at 11:00am.

A Vote for Fashion is this year's theme for the fashion show, Saturday, February 6, at Shadowridge Golf Club. See the flyer for more information; tickets will go on sale at our January 11 meeting. Make plans to attend and bring a friend or two.

Day of Recollection, Monday, February 29, is a morning event we share with the Spirited Seniors, open to all adults, and will feature guest speaker Fr. Larry Dolan, OSF. Sign-ups will be taken on the plaza soon, cost is \$15 and includes a light lunch and coffee. (This is not a fundraising event; cost covers lunch and speaker honorarium). Watch for more information via a flyer and in this column in the coming weeks. This is a wonderful way to engage ourselves spiritually in the Lenten season.

Game Day results will be available in the next Women's Guild Bulletin column, but all attendees had a great time, good food, and wonderful prizes. Thanks to all who donated food, card tables, prizes, and "Congratulations" are in order to Marcy Bernier and Trish Feeley for making it all happen. It took a lot of work and time, but they pulled it off beautifully!

Lastly, the celebration of life for former President, Ann Buko, which took place this past Friday, was a loving tribute to one of the most inspiring women I have ever met. Please join me in prayers of thanksgiving to God for having placed her in our lives, and prayers of comfort and healing for her family. Rest in peace in the arms of Jesus, Ann. —*Kathy Gerhard, president*

Men's Fellowship Update

Are you hungry for a good message, good fellowship, and a good breakfast? Join us for our Saturday morning men's gathering and breakfast called *iHunger*. To stay informed of what's going on with *iHunger* via SMS text messages, Text @iHunger to 23559.

Also, if you find yourself thirsty for occasional fellowship over a beer at a local micro-brewery, or taking a day hike, or going to a ball game together with some other great men from the Parish, **Text @iThirst to 23559.**

Catholic Widows and Widowers of North County

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

Memorial Item Donations Available

\$850,000
\$27,000
\$1,350
\$60,000
\$55,000
\$45,000
\$45,000
\$30,000
\$30,000
\$10,000

Memorial Item Donations Partial

Jesus, Divine Redeemer and Master of the Universe Mosaic Panels for Memorial Garden (54) 19 available	\$5,000/each
Priests' Dedication Vestments (for extra Bishops and Abbots) (4) 4 available	\$400/each
Pew Seating for the Church (1,000) 715 available	\$300/each
Daily Mass Chapel and Choir Chairs (200) 95 available	\$300/each
Altar Server Albs (15) 15 available	\$125/each
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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.

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*

Need Help with Transportation to Church!

Volunteer drivers are needed in our Parish. Some Parishioners would like to attend Mass and cannot drive themselves. Please prayerfully consider helping some of our fellow Parishioners. If you can help in any



way with this service, please contact Ann Eriksson 760-599-7151 or *eriksson1@mindspring.com*.

Liturgy & Music Worship God

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



You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.

Luke 3:22

Upcoming Music

¥

JANUARY 18 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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5:00pm

Cantor & Congregation

8:30am

Tower Bells

10:30am

Sanctuary Choir

Fresh Flowers at Weekend Mass Celebrations

If you would like to remember, honor, or celebrate someone special or a special occasion with the addition of an arrangement of flowers at our weekend Masses during Ordinary Time, please see our Parish Receptionist during the week.

Your donation of \$85 will provide a lovely arrangement on the altar platform, including all taxes and delivery. A note in the weekend's bulletin will announce your special person or event.

Only one flower arrangement may be offered each weekend and payment must be made at the time you reserve your weekend. Two week's notice is required. We are sorry that we are not able to take your reservation over the phone at this time. Thank you!

BREAKING OPEN THE DESIGN

understanding our Church's design—the slope

The Interior Design Team has spent years working on the design of our Church—praying, reading official documents, visiting more than 20 newly built or recently renovated churches in the dioceses of San Diego and San Bernardino, producing the project's "Liturgical Program" as a design resource that describes the interrelationship among the various liturgical spaces and liturgical elements of the Church, evaluating floorplans, and meeting with liturgical artists.

The goal of this work is to create a worship space—a worship environment—that conveys the guidelines of the national and diocesan Church while incorporating the Parish's unique worship experience, our particular customs and practices, if you will.

As you can imagine, there have been questions. Why does everyone use the slope behind the priest to get to the sanctuary? Why do the chairs in the Daily Mass Chapel face each other? Why is Mary's shrine not in the main hall? Why are there chairs in front of the pews in the main hall? Why are there two options (kneeling or sitting) in the Reconciliation Chapel?

Over the next few weeks, I will be answering these questions and more, discussing the process by which the Interior Design Team came to some of these decisions.

Do you have questions? Let me know, and I will endeavor to answer them in a future column.

This week...the slope.

Question

Why do our liturgical ministers use the slope behind the priest's chair to get to the sanctuary when we have perfectly good stairs?

Answer

The short version is that the slope is a visible sign of this Parish's commitment to accessibility and inclusion in our worship and in our ministries.

Very early on in the design process, our liturgical consultant emphasized the global Church's commitment to accessibility. In Built of Living Stones: Art, Architecture, and Worship (BLS, the principal building document of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops), we learned accommodation must be made to "allow access to the altar by ministers who need wheelchairs or who have other disabilities" (BLS §59). Likewise, the ambo also must be accessible (BLS §61).

The Interior Design Team decided after much discussion that it is important not to segregate our community into those who can and those who cannot walk up steps, recommending the slope so that everyone may use the same path to the sanctuary, where the altar and ambo are located.

Their direction to the architect led to his inclusion of the slope in the final floorplan, and to our using it for all liturgical movement.







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

REACH Classes Resume January 17

Join Us Sunday, January 17 12:30-2:00pm For a talk on Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'*

> Care of Our Common Home Facilitated by Fr. Emmett Farrell



Sacrament Prep News



MANDATORY Parent Meeting

for families whose children will be making their First Communion this year. Meeting will be held on January 24, 12:30-2:00pm on the upper level of the Parish Center.

Adult Confirmation

Are You an Adult Who Wishes to Be Confirmed? Classes for Adult Confirmation have begun on Thursday evenings from 7:00-8:30pm. Contact Debbie in the Faith Formation office for more information and to register.

MATTHEW KELLY

Coming to North County at St. Elizabeth Seton Saturday, February 6, 2016

This will be a **SOLD OUT** event! Get your tickets today by Contacting the Faith Formation Office or ordering online at www.DynamicCatholic.com

Adult Faith Formation

New Sessions Beginning for



Next session is January 13

Matthew:

The King and His Kingdom
Wednesday Mornings,
9:00-11:00am
Sign up today to register and get your workbook for the next session.
Contact Patt Goeltz for more information at pattg@stmoside.org.

Evening Bible Study

Sessions Have Begun for



Join Us Thursday Evenings at 7:00pm. Contact Debbie in the Faith Formation Office for more information.



COMING SOOR



BELOVED

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

For more information please contact:

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

A Temple Built of Living Stones includes our faith journey as well as the buildout of our Parish Campus.

Collection for Week of January 2/3, 2016			
Number of Registered Households	1,181		
Offertory	\$9,568.45		
Offertory (Loose Collection)	\$1,257.00		
Total	\$10,825.45		

Mortgage/Building Completion Fund Income September 15, 2014 to December 31, 2015

Mortgage Offering Collected	\$767,605.15
Less Administrative Costs	\$33,328.00
Payment toward Parish Reserves (10%)	\$75,029.02
Payment toward Mortgage	\$675,261.13
Mortgage Payment Due	\$687,757.15
Mortgage Payment Overage/(Shortfall)	(\$12,496.02)
Memorial Items	\$1,382,849.90
Please continue to support the	
Mortgage/Building Completion Fu	ınd!

"Did You Know " Collection DECEMBER 2015 \$7,755.00

St. Francis and St. Thomas More Offertory Envelopes

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What Is the Jubilee Year of Mercy?

If there's one word we have come to identify with Pope Francis, it's the word "mercy." It's a compelling, consoling, generous word. We have seen the Holy Father applying this word as he washes the feet of prisoners and embraces the disfigured. Last month Pope Francis opened the Jubilee Year of Mercy.

What's a jubilee year, and how does it impact those of us in the pews in Peoria or San Diego, Perth or Vancouver? Jubilee years have been around since 1300, and they usually occur every 25 to 50 years. Like all things Catholic, they're steeped in history. There's even a Holy Door at the Basilica of St. Peter's which is opened by the pontiff to begin the jubilee year. But we know that with Pope Francis, the jubilee will take on meaning



far beyond mere historical formalities. Hopefully, it will deeply affect our own spiritual lives.

In proclaiming the Jubilee Year of Mercy, the Holy Father cited the Gospel of Saint Matthew on the subject of forgiveness. When Peter asks Jesus if he must forgive someone as much as seven times, Jesus replied that we are to forgive not seven times, but instead, seventy-seven times (18:21-22).

"This is a profound teaching," said Pope Francis. "Jesus affirms that mercy is not only an action of the Father, it becomes a criterion for ascertaining who his true children are."

The Year of Mercy began on the feast of the Immaculate Conception, which coincides with the 50th anniversary of the conclusion of the Second Vatican Council, an event about which Pope Francis said, "The walls which too long had made the Church a kind of fortress were torn down." Francis wants walls between people to come down and doors other than ceremonial ones opened.



What can we do to make this year special? We can start by extending mercy to ourselves, a sometimes difficult task. Perhaps we've been neglecting the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This is the perfect time to return. Maybe there is a family rift or torn relationship that needs healing. Pope Francis especially

beckons us towards those who live on the margins of society: We must open our hearts "to those living on the outermost fringes of society, fringes modern society itself creates." We must challenge ourselves to reach out beyond our comfort zone. The Pope challenges us. He proclaims that mercy is the central function of the Church and the key aspect of Jesus' ministry and work.

—January 2016, ICSC e-bulletin (with permission)

God's Mercy and Grace are new every morning.

News & Information from the Larger Church

Magnifcat Women's Prayer Breakfast—Saturday, January 16, 9:30am-12:30pm, Sheraton Hotel Mission Valley. Featured speaker, Margie Rapp will share her story and speak on her passion to help teens, youth ministers, and families develop a loving relationship with Jesus. \$30. RSVP by January 11 to 619-701-2713 or www.magnificate-sd.org.

Healing Beyond a Broken Heart: Practical Tools for Dealing with Grief—Tuesdays, January 19-February 23, 7:00-8:30pm, Mission San Luis Rey, 4050 Mission Ave., Oceanside. Presented by Br. Kevin Moshier, fsp. For more information call 760-757-3659 or visit www.sanluisrey.org/event-registration/?ee=473

High School Placement Test—Saturday, January 23, 7:30am, Cathedral Catholic High School. For more information, and to apply, visit www.cathedralcatholic.org/admissions.

18th Annual Divine Mercy Conference—February 5-6, Mission San Antonio De Pala. Mass at 7:00pm on Friday with celebrant Archbishop Julian Porteous. Inspiring video Message of Hope and Healing will follow Mass. Saturday includes speakers Archbishop Julian Porteous, Fr. Christ Alar MIC, Fr. Don Calloway MIC, and Fr. Dave Leon. Music by Donna Lee and friends. Closing Mass at 6:00pm. For more information, contact www.SDdivinemercy.org or 619-276-6637.

Fr. Joe's Villages Ladies Guild Annual Charity Luncheon—Tuesday, February 16, 10:45am, "Ooh-La-La Paris" at the Sheraton Mission Valley. \$55 per person; free parking. All

STM Scrip News

Remember you can shop online and purchase instant Scrip: ScripNow. Check www.stmoside.org/scrip.htm to sign up.

Do you shop on Amazon.com? You can fundraise for STM while you shop using Amazon Smile and Amazon Scrip—check www.stmoside.org/scrip.htm for details!

Scrip is now available after all three Masses. We appreciate your continued support for the Scrip program. For more information, visit www.stmoside.org/scrip.htm or contact the Scrip team at 760-758-4100 x150 or scrip@stmoside.org

P.S. Have you re-registered your Ralphs/Food 4 Less cards so that St. Thomas More receives a percentage of your purchases? Stop by the Scrip table after Mass or visit www.stmoside.org/script.htm for details.

STM Vehicle Donation Program

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

As of December 8 we have netted \$60,352 from this program. Thank you donors!









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

proceeds benefit the children at Fr. Joe's Villages. For information/donations, contact Kristi at 858-453-9640 or kristikeith@mac.com or Jane at 858-453-7016 or janehargrove67@gmail.com.

Rachel's Vineyard Post Abortion Healing Weekend Retreat—March 18 - 20. The retreat is an opportunity for any woman or man who has struggled with the emotional & spiritual pain of abortion. For more information or to register please call Dolores at 951-325-7702 or email rvtemecula@verizon.net. Also visit www.rachelsvineyard.org.



Around the Diocese—Visit *www.diocese-sdiego.org* to learn more about activities available through the Diocese and other Parishes.

Bereavement Support Group—Meets every Tuesday, 9:30-11:00am, at St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Room 5 of the Parish Center, 6628 Santa Isabel St., Carlsbad. All those negotiating the loss of a loved one are invited to participate. For more information, contact Liz Littel at 760-917-4404.

Shopportunity—Catholic Charities Thrift—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 Marco Lemus at 760-631-4792.

Young Adult Opportunities around the Diocese

For more information, visit www.yamsd.org. To receive text updates, text YAM to 84576.

Visit www.sandiegocac.org for activities around the Diocese for adults of all ages.

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

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

Parish Contacts

Updated 10/06/2015

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

Council Chail persons. I astoral-Doug D Agrosa 700- 941-0800 Finance-r au nouerson 700- 734-1031 Development-Ron Brischo 700- 720-4470			
Pastoral Council Committees	Walking Ministry	Diane Pal 760-815-2519	
Religious Education/Faith Formation/Evangelization	Women's Guild	Kathy Gerhard 760-732-5951	
Rory Griffin 760-414-3939	Social Ministries	Stacey & Morgan Espe 760-224-2699	
Religious Education for Adolescents & Children (RE.A.CH)	Blood Drive	Stacey & Morgan Espe 760-224-2699	
Debbie Fredette 760-758-4100 x110	Brother Benno's Collection	Den. Tom Goeltz 760-727-8442	
Liturgy of the Word for Children Heidi Madden 760-529-2400	Brother Benno's Kitchen Se	erver	
Sacramental PreparationDebbie Fredette 760-758-4100 x110		Kevin & Lisa Seufert 760-732-5965	
RCIA Kathleen Bell 760-809-6526	CPR/AED Classes	Phil Goscienski 760-732-1414	
Moms & Kids	Culture of Life	Jane Kelleher 760-822-7041	
Lia Haubert 949-322-6458		Ann Eriksson 760-305-9985	
Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs Regina Aulisio 760-295-5530	Mantal Haalth Ministry	Rita McCarthy 760-758-4100 x100Chair: Tim Keane 760-758-2717	
Youth Ministry Matt Franklin 760-758-4100 x161		Deacon John Fredette 760-758-4100 x104	
High School Matt Franklin 760-758-4100 x161			
Young Adults Matt Franklin 760-758-4100 x161		Pat Wong 760-806-1310	
Religious Education for AdultsDebbie Fredette 760-758-4100 x110	Project Linus	Norma Flanagan 760-630-0180 Mary Coxon 760-599-8760	
Bible Study Patt Goeltz 760-727-8442	Social Justice Committee	Henri Black 760-758-8137	
Centering Prayer Mary Williams 760-758-4100 x100	Interfaith Committee for		
Men's Fellowship			
Women's Ministry Debbie Fredette 760-758-4100 x110	JustFaith Activities	Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131	
Vocations	San Diego Organizing P		
Liturgy	our Diego Organizing I		
Art & Environment	Solutions for Change		
Bereavement MinistrySr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131		Rick & Heidi Madden 760-470-4998	
Eucharistic Adoration	St. Bonaventure Mission	Dcn. Tom Goeltz 760-727-8442	
Interior Design Team	Office Support	Henny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100	
Liturgical MinistriesDouglas Lynn 760-758-4100 x140	General Support	Henny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100	
Music Ministry	Chair Set-Up	Lorraine Doering 760-758-4100 x102	
Sacristans—Altar Guild Diana Diaz 760-758-7870 Sacristans—Altar Linens	Kitchen Manager	Rebecca Eyer 760-758-4100 x100	
Marriage & Family I :fo Lon Exect 959 602 7/429	Development Council Co	mmittees	
Marriage & Family Life	Annual Catholic Appeal	Flora Fallone 760-758-4100 x100	
Diocesan Liaison	New Construction	Brian Leahey 760-224-1674	
Family Services	Parish Membership	Valerie Thompson 760-630-1703	
Marriage Preparation Rev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100	Planned Giving		
Widows & Widowers of North CountyCarol Kope 760-726-0533	Publicity/Public Relations	Jane Gladden 760-659-6168	
Parish Organizations & Events Lisa & Pat Attardo 760-940-1505	Scrip Sales	Mike Nichols 760-727-7522	
Annual Gala		Andrea Sweeney 760-216-6389	
Historian/Archives Brandon Oswald 760-845-5450	Stewardship	Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120	
Knights of Columbus	Vehicle Donations	Diana Diaz 760-758-4100 x100	
Social Activities	Welcome Ministry		
Spirited Seniors			
Treasures Rummage Sale John & Wendy Murphy 760-497-6117			
Pastor	ral Staff		
Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor	760-758-4100 x100	michaelr@stmoside.org	
Rev. Karl Bauer, Senior Priest	760-758-4100 x133	karlb@stmoside.org	
Dcn. John Fredette	760-758-4100 x132	johnf@stmoside.org	
Dcn. Tom Goeltz	760-758-4100 x100	thomasg@stmoside.org	
Sr. Maureen Brown, Pastoral Associate	760-758-4100 x131	maureenb@stmoside.org	
Dcn. John Fredette, Business Manager	760-758-4100 x104	johnf@stmoside.org	
Debbie Fredette, Director of Faith Formation	760-758-4100 x110	debbief@stmoside.org	
Matt Franklin, Youth Advocate	760-758-4100 x161	mattf@stmoside.org	
Stacey Griffin, Faith Formation Office Assistant			
Douglas Lynn, Director of Liturgy and Music			
Kathy Santy, Assistant Music Director			
Sally Fay, Organist/Choir Accompanist			
Chris Smith, Director of Stewardship and Development			
Joe Garcia, Director of Maintenance			
Henny Jocelyn, Receptionist/Secretary	760-758-4100 x100	hennyj@stmoside.org	
Lorraine Doering, Parish Office Technician	760-758-4100 x102	lorrained@stmoside.org	
Brian Leahey, Director of Construction	760-758-4100 x152	brianl@stmoside.org	

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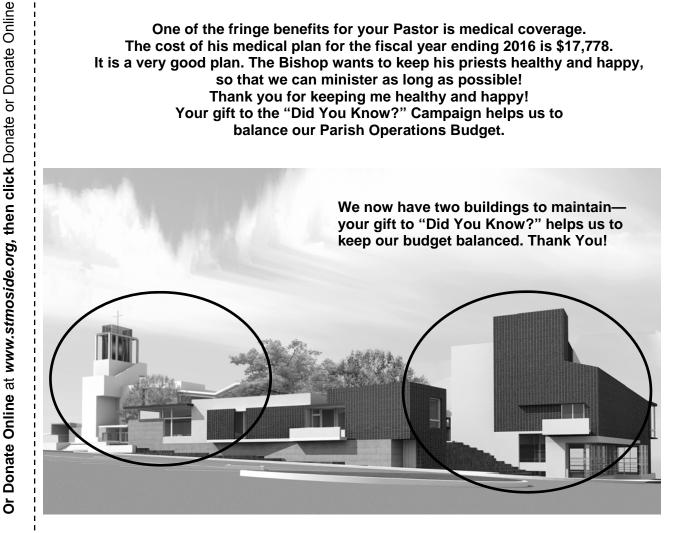




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St. Thomas More Women's Guild Annual Luncheon and Fashion Show

VOTE FOR FASHION

Saturday, February 6
Shadowridge Golf Club
Fashions by Draper's and Damons

TICKET PRE-SALE: January 11 at Women's Guild monthly meeting

TICKET SALE:S January 16-17, 23-24, 30-31
After all Masses or until all tickets are sold

Tickets are \$45 and supply is limited

Opportunity Baskets

Door Prizes

Contact Valerie Thompson at 760-630-1703 for more information







Laudato Si'

Care of Our Common Home Sunday January 17

12:30-2:00pm

Presenter: Fr. Emmett Farrell

In the words of this beautiful canticle, *Laudato Si'*, *mi Signore*, meaning "Praise be to you, my Lord," Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us. In his writing, Pope Francis follows and expands on Catholic teaching and mankind's responsibility to care for God's creation, and to protect and care for the most vulnerable.

Please join us Sunday, January 17, to hear Fr. Emmett Farrell speak on the cultural and environmental issues facing today's world through the eyes of the Catholic Church and her teachings. Fr. Emmet Farrell is the retired pastor of Saint Jude's Shrine of the West in San Diego and has served as Director of the Sanctuary Program for the Maryknoll/Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America.

There is no cost to attend this event.

For more information, please contact Debbie in the Faith Formation Office at 760-758-4100 x110.



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