

**SAINT
THOMAS
MORE
CATHOLIC
CHURCH**

**Our Holy Year Pilgrimage Church Door
is open 7:00am-7:00pm
seven days a week.
Stop by for a visit!**

*If you'd like to help out by spending
an hour a week in the church during these times,
contact Evans Formica at evansf@stmoside.org.*



*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

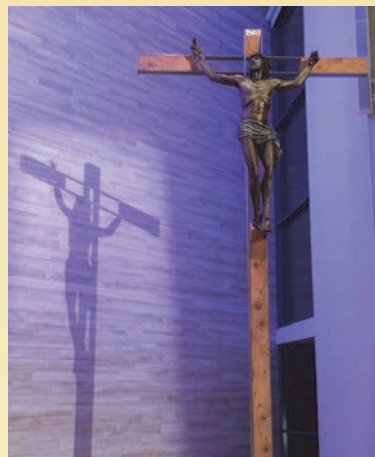
Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor
Rev. Karl Bauer, Senior Priest
Deacon John Fredette
Deacon Thomas A. Goeltz

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



**First Sunday of Lent
February 14, 2016**

Lenten Dinner

Friday, February 19, 5:30-6:30pm

Stations of the Cross

Friday, February 19, 7:00pm

For complete schedule, visit www.stmoside.org

Pastor's Column

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

A Lenten Examination of Conscience

Death and time seem to belong together as the conditions under which human beings can learn faith and love. Death helps us to see what is worth trusting and loving, and to see what is a waste of time.

1. If I were to die tomorrow, have I had joy? Have I cared? Have I had the best of what was available? Have I had any what it is all for? Where is God in my life?
2. To what extent do I know the value and place of others in my life? Am I aware of and grateful for the roles others have played in making me, for better or for worse, who and what I am? Can I recognize the decisions of family, friends, or companions that have given me the freedom to make choices? Where is God in my life?
3. Am I capable of sacrificing my own desires, pleasures, longings, for the good of others? Can I see and be thankful for the sacrifices of others for me? Do I require praise for my self-giving, or am I willing to make mine an offering "in secret" solely for the good it can produce? Where is God in my life?
4. Who have I thought I loved? Was my motive self-giving or self-centered? When I hear the words "the joy of loving," do I think of what I can get or what I can give to others? How often have I said, in words or deeds, "No Thanks!" to someone who has said to me, "I want to love you"? Does the Golden Rule have any practical place in my life? When have I last prayed for someone who hurt me; acted kindly toward someone who offended me; desired the good for someone who hates me? Where is God in my life?
5. When I pray the Lord's Prayer, do I take seriously the words of the petition "Forgive us...as we forgive"? Am I willing to forgive others the wrongs they have done to me? Am I willing to ask forgiveness of wrongs I have done to others? Where is God in my life?

(Continued on page 2)

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

6. How open am I to being healed? How open am I to exploring and recognizing and admitting those places in my heart and soul that need healing? Am I humble enough to recognize the role of others in the healing process, or does my ego insist that I "do it all myself"? Where is God in my life?

—Based on Neville Ward and Mitch Albom

As we begin this Season of Lent, take time to reflect upon this examination of conscience and seriously ask yourself, "Where is God in my life?"

Fr. Mike

Lenten Reconciliation Services at Local Parishes

Tue, Feb. 16	12:30pm	St. Francis, Vista
Tue, Feb. 16	6:30pm	St. Francis, Vista
Wed, Feb. 17	7:00pm	St. Margaret, Oceanside
Tue, Feb. 23	6:30pm	St. Mary, Oceanside
Tue, Mar. 1	6:30pm	St. James, Solana Beach
Wed, Mar. 2	7:00pm	St. Patrick, Carlsbad
Mon, Mar. 7	7:00pm	St. Thomas More, Oceanside
Tue, Mar. 8	7:00pm	Nativity, Rancho Santa Fe
Thu, Mar. 10	1:00pm	Mission San Luis Rey, Oceanside
Thu, Mar. 10	7:00pm	Mission San Luis Rey, Oceanside
Mon, Mar. 14	7:00pm	St. Elizabeth Seton, Carlsbad
Tue, Mar. 15	7:00pm	St. John, Encinitas
Mon, Mar. 21	6:30pm	St. Mark, San Marcos
Tue, Mar. 22	10:30am	St. Peter, Fallbrook
Tue, Mar. 22	6:00pm	St. Peter, Fallbrook

STM Mental Health Ministry Network

STM is a member of the San Diego Mental Health Ministry Network (MHMN) and has made a commitment to become a faith community that both understands mental illness and can provide compassionate support. While our ministry is not intended to replace professional or clinical services and does not provide professional care, we do exist to serve individuals and families experiencing mental health issues by offering God's hope and love through encouragement, practical support, and prayer. The volunteers of this ministry have a heart to serve those who are experiencing mental health issues and would like to walk with you through your mental health experience and support you in whatever way we can. If you or a loved one is experiencing mental health challenges, or if you would like to find out how to become a member, please contact us at 760-758-4100 x104.

The MHMN is collaborating with NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, to present a 12-session educational program entitled "Family-to-Family" here at St. Thomas More which serves family members and friends of individuals with serious mental illness. Classes begin Wednesday, March 9, at 6:30pm and space is limited. For more information or to register, contact 760-722-3754 or info@naminorthcoastal.org

Welcome New Parishioners

Ryan & Sheryl Fortin
Paul & Michelle Mackenzie & Family
Nick & Cindy Remini & Family

Congratulations to

Al & DeDe Waloch

who celebrate their 58th anniversary of marriage on February 15.

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

In Memoriam

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

Dee Barakman, who died on February 1. Her Funeral Service will be celebrated on Thursday, February 18, at 11:00am at New Community Church in Vista. Please keep her mother, Parishioner Nadine Slemmer, and her family in your prayers.

May her soul 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

**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.

Help Feed the Hungry

Pope Francis reminds us:
 "You pray for the hungry.
 Then you feed them.
 That's how prayer works."

Please bring one or more items of non-perishable food to help feed the hungry.

Let's fill our shopping cart each week!



Readings for the Week Ahead

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

Sunday, February 14 (24)

First Sunday of Lent
Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Psalm 91:1-2,10-15

Romans 10:8-13

Luke 4:1-13

Monday, February 15 (224)

Leviticus 19:1-2,11-18

Psalm 19:8-10,15

Matthew 25:31-46

Tuesday, February 16 (225)

Isaiah 55:10-11

Psalm 34:4-7,16-19

Matthew 6:7-15

Wednesday, February 17 (533)

*Seven Founders of the Order of
Servites, religious*

Romans 8:26-30

Psalm 34:2-11

Matthew 19:27-29

Thursday, February 18 (227)

Ester C:12,14-16,23-25

Psalm 138:1-3,7c-8

Matthew 7:7-12

Friday, February 19 (228)

Ezekiel 18:21-28

Psalm 130:1-8

Matthew 5:20-26

Saturday, February 20 (229)

Deuteronomy 26:16-19

Psalm 119:1-2,4-5,7-8

Matthew 5:43-48

Sunday, February 21 (27)

Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 15:5-12,17-18

Psalm 27:1,7-9,13-14

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Luke 9:28b-36

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

Changa Aguilera
Ernie Aichele
Mary Alexander
The Ames & Portman Families
Christine & Cory Anderson
Carrie Autrey
Joshua Avery
Rosemary Ballard
The Barakman & Slemmer Families
Jose Luis Barbosa
Patricia Barbour
Francie Barron
Clarice Bednarz
John Bennici
Regina Bentz
Lisa Berg
Roseanne Berg
Mary Betz
Betty Jean Bielich
Pieter Boets & Family
Zane Breier
Beth Brewer
Janet Brown
The Rick Brown Family
Katie Browne
Jack & Mary Bruzas
Janice Buchanan
Anita Buerger
Shelby Campbell
Brianna Campos
Aria Cappeluti
Jorge Cartajena
Donald Cashmore
Anne Caywood
The Vaughn Clevenger Family
Anne Cline
Carl & Dorothy Coleman
James Coleman
Judy Colson
Geoff Coolidge
Steven Cresencia
Lene Crowe
Karen 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 deVilleneuve
Carole Dillon
Elizabeth Doherty's Aunt Jackie
Art & Dave Dossman
The Dumas Family
The Dunbar Family
Marge Egan
Jerome Eibacha
Arthur Eral
Carolyn Erickson Ey
Abigale Esper
Danielle Esper
Victoria Lopez Fenton
The Fiore Family
Fr. James Flanagan
Mary Fleming
Ryan Flum
Ernie Follis
Eugene Francisus
Kathryn Franklin
The Greg French Family
William K. Fullmer
Jim Gallagher
The Joe Garcia Family
Kathy Gardner
Joan Gay
Alyssa Gerhard
Jack & Marge Gillen
Merle Glime
Wendy Gonzales' Dad
Rick Gonzalez
Tillie Gonzalez
Matthew Gora
Lou Gordon
George Gritt
Fred Gritzen and Family
Luke Guent
Pat & Tom Hannon
The Harker Family
Dorothy Harrison
Barbara Hatem
Bill & Mary Haynes
Lillian Hills
Lisa (Lynn) Hodges
Samara Hook
Susan Horn
Iolanda Iacobelli
Katherine Jacobs
Laura Kater
Dottie Kearney
Connor Kerzie
Peggy Kiernan
Debbie Kinney
Mark Kneisel
Dewey Kolbo
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 Trejo Family
Paige Mansell
Jesus Martinez
Gloria Maupin
Colleen McCall
Virginia McConnell
Paige McCoy
The McGinley Family
Ann McMahan
Bob McWilliams
Joyce Meehan
Kalei Mendiola
Carolyn Mertes
Lorraine Micallef
Rita Mikridge
Tom Miller
Phyllis Minaya
Ann Mitchell
June Mitchell
June Montgomery
Nancy Moore
Elizabeth Muehlbacher
Conrad Murphy
Margie Myers
Angela Nacional
Melanie Nacional
Nida Navarro
Richard Obsitnik
Kare O'Dell
Laura Paciorek Gloor
Ethan Palm
Klarabelle Payne
Cynthia Pearson
Salina Pearson
The Perez Family
Elisa Petrie
Merri Phelps
Helen Pingtiella
Leandro Piterelli
Delilah Plasterer
Perry Postulka
The Joe Prokop Family
Maria Elena Quiroz
Barbara Ramm
Jenni Richard
Evelyn Richards
Jan Riley
Rita Ritchie
Lily Robinson
Maria Rogers
The Rosmino Family
Donna Russell
The Russo Family
Rachel Saine
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
The Stoddard Families
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
Anderson Unknown
Erla, Joe & Family Unknown
Jadel Unknown
Joshrey Unknown
Lillian Unknown
Oniel Unknown
Tamaris Unknown
Vanessa Unknown
Mark Urias
Martin Vertson
Joao Victor
Lucy Vienna
Lucy Viramontes
Vanessa Vitiello
The Wallace Family
Wilson Wanner
Kevin Watson-Graff
Jerry Wechsler
Germaine Wilcott
Patricia Zavala
Jeanne Zeltner

Calendar Highlights

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

Feb 14 Liturgy of the Word for
Children at 8:30am and
10:30am Masses
Feb 14 Rite of Election in San Diego
Feb 14 Spirited Seniors
St. Valentine's Day Lunch
Feb 16 Ecology Crisis Meeting
Feb 17 Catholic/Muslim Dialogue at
USD
Feb 21 Liturgy of the Word for
Children at 8:30am and
10:30am Masses
Feb 21 REACH Classes
Feb 21 Steubenville Information
Meeting
Feb 28 Catholic/Muslim Dialogue at
STM
Feb 29 Day of Reflection
Mar 12-13 Brother Benno's Food Drive
Mar 13 New Member Reception
Apr 10 Spring Sing
Apr 16 Spring Ring
Apr 29 STM Gala
May 8 Confirmation
May 29 Memorial Day,
Choral Concert
Jun 10-12 Annual Campout
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
Sgt. Brandon Lysen, 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.

February 15 Sr. Linda Hayward, RSCJ
February 16 Sr. Marina Hernandez, RSCJ
February 17 Sr. Maria Guadalupe Hernandez, SJS
February 18 Sr. Electa Hevener, OCD
February 19 Sr. Giocin Marie Hong Ngoc Chi, MC
February 20 Sr. Ngoc Chi Hong, MC
February 21 Sr. Mary Hotz, RSCJ

Mass Intentions
Saturday, February 13 5:00pm Sterling Rinear ☩
Sunday, February 14, 8:30am Claire DeAnza ☩
Sunday, February 14 10:30am Robert Ratajczak ☩
Monday, February 15, 8:15am Ruth Mary Walsh ☩
Tuesday, February 16, 8:15am Sue Welch ☩
Wednesday, February 17, 8:15am Leonard & Dolly Cole ☩
Thursday, February 18, 8:15am Steven Wilmott ☩
Friday, February 19, 8:15am Jo Reilly ☩
Saturday, February 20, 5:00pm Mary Ann Postulka ☩
Sunday, February 21, 8:30am Ann Couture
Sunday, February 21, 10:30am Michael Sargeant ☩

Social Ministries & Outreach

Ecological Crisis Meeting

*Tuesday, February 16, 7:00pm
Parish Center Lower Level*

Over the last year, many members of St Thomas More have studied in depth the ecological crisis that our planet is facing. We have discussed, read, and debated the issues deeply. After a great deal of learning and conversation, the time has now come to take concrete action as a Parish community by responding to Pope Francis' call for the faithful to "care for our common home."

At this meeting we will decide the concrete steps that we as a Parish will take to respond to this urgent call.

If you, like so many of us, are troubled by what we hear about drought, extreme weather, temperature changes, pollution, and the destruction of nature, but don't know where to begin, this meeting will offer you a first step toward putting your faith into action to care for creation. Don't miss it!

Deepening Inter-Religious Dialogue and Community Alliances

*Wednesday, February 17, 7:00pm
Univ. of San Diego Joan Kroc Peace and Justice Center Theater*

Bishop McElroy will be speaking with Imam Sayyid Syeed, PhD, Islamic Society of North America and some USD faculty members to share their respective efforts, knowledge and experience on inter-religious dialogue, community resilience and public engagement as effective approaches to community and peacebuilding.

You must register for this event. It is free but they want to provide for the attendance and reception to follow. Kindly RSVP to: mtheriault@sandiego.edu, or 619-260-7618, or online at <http://tinyurl.com/z5toem5>.

Getting to Know our Muslim Neighbors: A Catholic/Muslim Dialogue

*Sunday, February 28, 12:30-2:30pm
Parish Center Upper Level*

Come listen to and interact with our Pastor, Fr. Mike, and Imam Yassir from the Mosque in Vista for a panel discussion about our faiths: what we hold in common, and how we can work together for the common good! Members of all faiths are welcome! So come along and invite your friends! Sandwiches and items from Tommy's Café will be available after the 10:30am Mass. Let's take time to get to know our neighbors and not let fear rule our

Brother Benno's Food Drive March 12-13

The weekend of March 12-13 our Parish will hold its annual food drive to help Brother Benno's. For over 20 years, our Parish has collected nonperishable food items to go directly to Brother Benno's to be distributed by them to individuals and families in need. Deacon Tom will have trucks available in the parking lot before all the Masses on that weekend for your food donations (disposable diapers are also greatly needed for poor families with babies). Please be generous as always.

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! There are many events throughout the month posted on our private Facebook page, including a park play date on Monday, February 15, 3:00-5:00pm. Join us! Contact Jen Abelson at jen.abelson@gmail.com.



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, continuing February 17 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—Natural Family Planning: "Natural family planning (NFP) methods represent authentic family planning. They can be used both to achieve and to postpone a pregnancy. NFP makes use of periodic abstinence from sexual intercourse based upon the observation of the woman's natural signs of fertility, in order to space births or to limit the number of children when there is a serious reason to do so. NFP methods require that couples learn, accept, and live with the wonders of how God made them. This is essentially different from contraception." To read the document go to <http://www.usccb.org/loveandlife/>.

Marriage Moments—Valentines Day is February 14 but its spirit can be celebrated any day. Repeat your vows to each other today, "I _____, again take you, _____, to be my wife/husband. I promise to be true to you in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health. I will love you and honor you all the days of my life." Bonus points if you memorize it.

Parenting Pointers—Week 1: Letting go of stuff I don't need to fill another's need is a foundational Christian virtue. Is there one toy or amusement that I'm willing to pass on to someone who would appreciate it? (a younger sibling, a neighbor, a stranger...)

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

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

Parish Events

Lenten Dinners—Knights of Columbus

Friday nights during Lent (February 12-March 18), the Knights of Columbus will serve their popular fish dinner (\$7-1 fish or \$9-2fish or \$4-child), which includes baked cod, macaroni and cheese, potatoes, vegetables, coleslaw, and cornbread, serving from 5:15-6:30pm. A delicious selection of sweets is available at Bob Wong's famous dessert bar (\$1/serving). To make reservations for six or more, call Jim at 760-726-2807.

Women's Guild News

Thanks to all who made the Women's Guild Fashion Show such a huge success on Saturday, February 6, at Shadowridge Golf Club. The sold-out event featured fashions from Draper's and Damon's, modeled by women of the Parish, lots of opportunity baskets beautifully wrapped and artfully displayed by Maureen Tutino, and many door prizes added to the thrill of winning. Your generosity in donations and ticket purchases realized a profit of approximately \$6,000! Thank you, thank you, thank you! Congratulations to Chairperson Valerie Thompson; she put together a great crew, who worked hard and long to make this year's Fashion Show the best ever!

With the Lenten season upon us, consider attending the Day of Recollection on Monday, February 29, sponsored by the Spirited Seniors and Women's Guild. Fr. Larry Dolan, OFM, from Old Mission San Luis Rey, will take us on a Lenten journey through the Bible. You can register at the table on the plaza for the next two weekends. The cost is \$15 (\$25 per couple) and includes Mass, a light lunch, speaker's stipend, and Stations of the Cross to round out the half-day activity. What a wonderful way to seek inspiration during these Lenten days of fasting and almsgiving, as we recall the suffering and death Christ experienced for us.

Have a blessed and faith-filled week, and a very Happy Valentine's Day! —*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

For more information, call Carol Kope at 760-726-0533 or visit www.cwwnc.com. See the bulletin board on the lower level for our complete monthly calendar of social activities. RSVPs are required.

St. Bonaventure Indian Mission

Why do we give shoes and clothing every year to St. Bonaventure Indian Mission? Because the Navajo serviced by them are among the poorest of the poor in our great country...and among the forgotten. STM holds this drive on the second weekend in November. And while that seems far away, it comes fast, and we urge you to start setting aside good used clothing and serviceable shoes (no heels please) now. Thank you and God bless.

Memorial Item Donations Available

Pipe Organ	\$850,000
Christ on the Road to Emmaus Bronze Sculpture for Daily Mass Chapel	\$27,000
St. Joseph and Child Refurbishing	\$1,350
Parish Offices	
Metal Framing Exterior Walls	\$60,000
HVAC Components	\$55,000
Roofing	\$45,000
Exterior Windows and Doors	\$45,000
Exterior Brick	\$30,000
Plumbing	\$30,000
Plumbing Finish and Fixtures	\$10,000

Memorial Item Donations Partial

<i>Jesus, Divine Redeemer and Master of the Universe Mosaic Panels for Memorial Garden</i> (54) 17 available	\$5,000/each
Priests' Dedication Vestments (for extra Bishops and Abbots) (4) 4 available	\$400/each
Pew Seating for the Church (1,000) 712 available	\$300/each
Daily Mass Chapel and Choir Chairs (200) 93 available	\$300/each
Altar Server Albs (15) 15 available	\$125/each

02/10/16

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

Take St. Thomas More Home!

St. Thomas More Tapestry Panels, 26" x 30", are available for \$200/each. This "one of a kind" bust is created of the same materials as the actual tapestry that is in our Church! See the sample hanging in the Parish Office. There are 11 available for purchase now. We are offering these, as well as the STM Posters, at our cost. Order forms and posters are available after all Masses at the Parish Information Table on the plaza

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

Liturgy & Music *Worship God*

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



When the devil had finished every temptation,
 he departed from him for a time.

Luke 4:13

by Melissa Musick
 Nussbaum,
 from Celebration
 March 2016,
 with permission.

kings (read: warriors) by talking about “saints who were also kings and queens.”

Enter Ma-Maw (that’s me), who likes reading about and thinking about saints and who likes asking saints to pray for us. We talk about the True King, and what sort of king Jesus is. We make shields and talk about the shields of faith God gives us to protect our hearts. (We talk about the shield of faith even as the boys are using their homemade shields to battle.) We make crowns and talk about the crown of faith. (We talk about the crown of faith even as the girls are gluing jewels on their homemade ones, all the while preening and vamping.)

We talk about their patrons—an Abraham, an Alexander, an Elizabeth, a Terese, and more—and I tell them stories. I tell them stories of St. Margaret of Scotland and St. Elizabeth of Hungary, two of my favorites. I teach them songs and poems. And I watch them as they play.

In the midst of their play I spy my tutu-wearing three-year-old granddaughter, standing in the middle of the room, her cardboard crown on her head and her cardboard shield in her hand. She is talking to herself: “Kings never, ever, ever pick their noses.”

She speaks with conviction and purpose. One of the important lessons the Little L’s do is something Miss Laura calls “Skills.” The children learn to put on shoes and fasten them. They learn to put on coats and hats and mittens. They learn to use toilet paper and flush and, yes, they learn the many uses of tissue. These are not instinctive skills, like walking and talking. These are social skills, hard-won and sometimes learned only after lots of fails and many tears. So it makes sense, doesn’t it, that a king would be someone who is as handy with a Kleenex as a sword.

I talk about kings and queens who seek God, who feed the hungry and sue for peace, because those are my needs and the needs I see all about me, needs I am called to meet and fail at meeting, again and again. But my granddaughter knows her own strivings, her own failures, and so she invests “the King” with all the abilities and skills she is yet to acquire. He never, ever, ever picks his nose.

THREE VITAL SKILLS

leading us to a fuller human life

Every Lent we are called to the sacred tripod: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, the same three things for all our lives. It occurs to me that we baptized are in a lifelong “Skills” class. For prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are not instinctive skills.

It is instinctive to go our own ways, turning a deaf ear to admonitions or counsel. Just watch a child chase a ball into the street or jump into deep water. No one has to teach us, much less drill us, in heedlessness. We take to it as we take to talking.

And that’s talking, not listening.

It is instinctive to eat. It is our second human act, right after breathing air. No one has to teach us, much less drill us, in how to take what we want and consume as much of it as we can. We take to it as we take to breathing.

It is instinctive to think of ourselves, to make sure that we are warm and fed and comfortable. No one has to teach us, much less drill us, in selfishness. We take to it as we take to walking.

So the church holds this sacred tripod before us. Not because talking, eating, and finding comfort are evil, but because, alone, they are not enough, not sufficient for a fully human life. To say, at the end, I “did it my way,” and I was well fed and comfortable in the doing, is not a big enough story. Not big enough, because it doesn’t come close to Jesus’ own story, which is the story of the new Adam, a man living on earth as God intended men and women to live.

I will continue, for all the Novembers I am invited to the Little L School, to talk about the Queen of Compassion, as St. Margaret of Scotland is sometimes called. I will tell her story, even as I know the children will probably go through stages where they are more interested in the Queen of Fashion.

I can be patient because I know the church is, and has been, and continues to be patient with me as I struggle to listen for God’s voice and see and care about needs other than my own, or those of my family and tribe.

Upcoming Music

✠

FEBRUARY 21
2nd Sunday of
Lent

✠

5:00pm

Cantor &
 Congregation

8:30am

Praise Team

10:30am

Tower Bells

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

No REACH Classes Today

Our Next REACH Class is February 21

Steubenville San Diego 2016
Fundraising and Parent Information Night
Sunday, February 21, 5:30pm in the Daily Mass Chapel



**Teens Grades 8-12 and
Their Parents Are Invited!**
Come find out about this
great weekend for teens!

Sacrament Prep News

Expecting ??



Why not schedule your Baptismal appointment today before the arrival of your little one? Please contact the Faith Formation Office at 760-758-4100 x110 or debbief@stmoside.org for more information.

Tommy's Cafe is Now Open!

Did you know that eating at Tommy's Café helps to send our teens to events like Steubenville San Diego and Life Teen Summer Camps?

Can you help send a teen to camp this summer?
Contact Debbie in the Faith Formation Office to see how you can make a difference!

Youth Ministry

STM OCEANSIDE LIFE TEEN
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surrender
Monday from 6:30-8:30pm

REFUEL

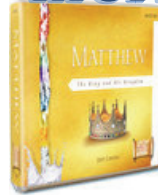
Wednesday 6:30-8pm

Middle School
EDGE
Jr. high ministry

No EDGE Today February 14

Adult Faith Formation

Morning Bible Study



Next session is
February 17

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



Join Us Thursday Evenings
at 7:00pm.

Previous week's video shown
at 6:00pm.

Contact Debbie in the Faith
Formation Office for more
information.



Join Us For



BELOVED

Next
Session is
February 17

Sessions continue for a 12-part series offered on Wednesday evenings 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 the Faith Formation Office for additional information. There is no cost to participate!

Stewardship & Development

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

Please see next week's bulletin for
collection figures for February 6-7
Thank you!

Want to Donate Online?

Our website has an online giving option! Go to www.stmoside.org and click on #5 or *Donations*, then *Sign Up for Electronic Offerings*.

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*.

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

For more information please contact:

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

Be a Good Steward of the Lenten Season

Ash Wednesday is a special day of devotion for Catholics. Churches are packed like no other day except Christmas and Easter. Even though the Church does not designate Ash Wednesday as a holy day of obligation, Catholics flock to receive ashes. Along with this outward sign of the beginning of a season of penitence, we embrace the call to conversion that Ash Wednesday heralds.

Christian stewards greet Lent with the best of intentions. But sometimes, we reach Easter disappointed in our own efforts. Here are some thoughts for keeping us on task during Lent:



Give thought and prayer to what will most help you draw closer to Jesus during this special season. Write down your intentions, and review them often.

- † Keep it simple, be realistic, and don't set yourself up for guilt.
- † Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are the pillars of Lent. Try to do one thing in each of these categories. Stretch yourself a bit and come up with something new and challenging.
- † Keep your eyes on Jesus. Coming closer to him through his passion and resurrection is our goal.
- † Simplify something tangible in your daily life, like your closet or your schedule.
- † Place a special candle on the dining room table, and when your family says grace each evening, encourage them to share the struggles and joys of their Lenten resolutions, or perhaps an act of kindness they did that day. This is a good activity for kids.
- † Take your family to the Stations of the Cross at least once.
- † Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and encourage your family to do so.
- † Make it a point to prepare for and participate in the beautiful Triduum liturgies of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and even the Easter Vigil. Celebrate the completion of your Lenten exercises.

—partially excerpted from ICSC February 2016 e-bulletin, with permission

Lent is the perfect time for us to reflect upon the depth of God's love for us, and to pay that forward.

News & Information from the Larger Church

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 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.

St. Joseph Academy (K-8 and High School) Open House—Saturday, February 20, 10:00am-1:00pm. Personal tours also available any time. Visit www.SaintJosephAcademy.org or call 760-305-8505.

Rachel's Hope After-Abortion Healing Retreat—February 19-21, St. Mary's Retreat Center, Escondido. For more information, contact Patti Smith, 760-305-8044, gridirongranny@live.com, or www.RachelsHope.org. Sponsored by the Diocese of San Diego.

Learning about the Priesthood—Saturday, February 20, 8:30am-3:00pm, St. Francis Center, University of San Diego. For more information, check with the Parish Office or Fr. Pedro Rivera at 619-291-7446.

Rachel's Hope Workshop for Men Saddened by a Past Abortion—February 20, 9:00am-6:00pm, Diocesan Pastoral Center, 3888 Paducah Dr., San Diego. For more information, contact 858-581-3022 or RachelsHope.org.

Stewardship: A Journey with the Lord—Sunday, February 21, 3:30pm, St. Mary Star of the Sea, 515 Pier View Way, Oceanside. Featuring singer/speaker Renée Bondi.

Rachel's Hope After-Abortion Healing Retreat for Women—March 11-13, Diocesan Pastoral Center, 3888 Paducah Dr., San Diego. Professionally led. For more information or to register, contact Rachels_Hope@juno.com or 858-581-3022 or visit www.RachelsHope.org.

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.

Synergy Youth Conference Volunteers Needed!—Training session on Saturday, February 20, 9:00-11:00am at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 3888 Paducah Dr., San Diego. Trained volunteers will be assisting at the Youth Conference on Saturday, April 2 at

Cathedral Catholic High School. Please RSVP by February 17 to mmitre@sdccatholic.org or 858-490-8260.



Around the Diocese—Visit www.sdccatholic.org to learn more about activities available through the Diocese and other Parishes.

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.

Young Adult Opportunities around the Diocese

Upcoming activities include Theology on Tap and several service projects.

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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**For more information, contact the Parish Office:
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Parish Contacts

Updated 02/10/2016

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

Pastoral Council Committees

Religious Education/Faith Formation/Evangelization

.....**Rory Griffin 760-414-3939**
 Religious Education for Adolescents & Children (R.E.A.CH)
Debbie Fredette 760-758-4100 x110
 Liturgy of the Word for Children Heidi Madden 760-529-2400
 Sacramental Preparation.....Debbie Fredette 760-758-4100 x110
 RCIA Kathleen Bell 760-809-6526
 Moms & Kids.....Jen Abelson 410-570-6962
 Lia Haubert 949-322-6458
 Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs Regina Aulisio 760-295-5530
 Youth Ministry Matt Franklin 760-758-4100 x161
 High School Matt Franklin 760-758-4100 x161
 Young Adults Matt Franklin 760-758-4100 x161
 Religious Education for Adults ...Debbie Fredette 760-758-4100 x110
 Bible Study..... Patt Goeltz 760-727-8442
 Centering Prayer Mary Williams 760-758-4100 x100
 Men's Fellowship..... Dcn. John Fredette 760-758-4100 x132
 Women's MinistryDebbie Fredette 760-758-4100 x110
 Vocations Matt Franklin 760-758-4100 x161

Liturgy**Kathy Arciero 760-231-1022**

Art & Environment Kathy Arciero 760-231-1022
 Bereavement Ministry.....Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131
 Eucharistic Adoration Available
 Interior Design Team Pat & Phil Goscinski 760-732-1414
 Liturgical Ministries.....Douglas Lynn 760-758-4100 x140
 Music Ministry.....Douglas Lynn 760-758-4100 x140
 Sacristans—Altar Guild Diana Diaz 760-758-7870
 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

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 John Murphy 760-497-6117
 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.....Kathy Gerhard 760-732-5951

Social Ministries**Stacey & Morgan Espe 760-224-2699**

Blood Drive Stacey & Morgan Espe 760-224-2699
 Brother Benno's Collection Dcn. Tom Goeltz 760-727-8442
 Brother Benno's Kitchen Server George Jones 760-940-9288
 Christmas Angel Ministry Kevin & Lisa Seufert 760-732-5965
 CPR/AED Classes..... Phil Goscinski 760-732-1414
 Culture of Life Jane Kelleher 760-822-7041
 Disability Facilitation Ann Eriksson 760-305-9985
 Jail Ministry Rita McCarthy 760-758-4100 x100
 Mental Health Ministry Chair: Tim Keane 760-758-2717
 Referrals: Deacon John Fredette 760-758-4100 x104
 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 Center for Worker Justice
 Joyce Meehan 760-304-0373
 San Diego Organizing Project (SDOP)
 Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131

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

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

Development Council Committees

Annual Catholic Appeal..... Flora Fallone 760-758-4100 x100
 New Construction Brian Leahey 760-224-1674
 Parish Membership Valerie Thompson 760-630-1703
 Planned Giving Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120
 Publicity/Public Relations..... Jane Gladden 760-659-6168
 Scrip Sales Mike Nichols 760-727-7522
 Andrea Sweeney 760-216-6389
 Stewardship Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120
 Vehicle Donations..... Diana Diaz 760-758-4100 x100
 Welcome Ministry Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120

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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
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Stacey Griffin, Faith Formation Office Assistant.....	760-758-4100 x110	staceyg@stmoside.org
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Kathy Santy, Assistant Music Director	760-758-4100 x100	kathys@stmoside.org
Sally Fay, Organist/Choir Accompanist.....	760-758-4100 x100	sallyf@stmoside.org
Chris Smith, Director of Stewardship and Development	760-758-4100 x120	chriss@stmoside.org
Joe Garcia, Director of Maintenance.....	760-758-4100 x151	joeg@stmoside.org
Henny Jocelyn, Receptionist/Secretary	760-758-4100 x100	hennyj@stmoside.org
Lorraine Doering, Parish Office Technician	760-758-4100 x102	lorrained@stmoside.org
Rebecca Eyer, Sacristan.....	760-758-4100 x100	rebecca@stmoside.org
Brian Leahey, Director of Construction.....	760-758-4100 x152	brianl@stmoside.org

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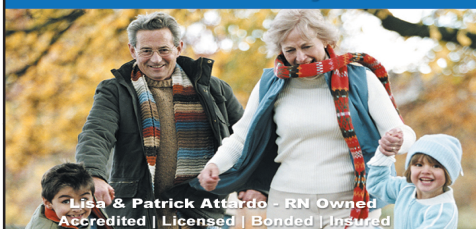
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RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION 2016



Liliana Avellan, Catechumen

I am so happy to introduce Liliana Avellan to the St. Thomas More parish community. Liliana is a Clinical Social Worker who has worked with the military for 20 years,

the last six being at Camp Pendleton. working with men and women who suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Liliana's family is Catholic and now she wants to receive the Sacraments of Christian initiation - Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. Her deep faith, her kindness and concern for others have taught me so much. She has truly been an inspiration to me. It has been a joy and honor to take this journey with her.

—Sandi Thompson, Sponsor



Nicole Packer, Catechumen

I am honored to introduce Nicole Packer to the parish of St Thomas More. Nicole is an example of the redemptive power of Jesus Christ in our lives if we allow him to be. Nicole turned to Jesus from the depths of difficulties in her life. He comforted her and guided her to the Catholic Church and the RCIA process. Nicole and her husband Josh are renewing their marriage based on their faith and commitment to the Church. They are proof that these

relationships are made stronger through the help of the Holy Spirit. Nicole and I have also learned a lot together this past year. We learned that there can never be too much air conditioning. We are both new to the St Thomas More community and learned how wonderful it is. We learned that a life filled with faith and God isn't necessarily an easy one free of problems. It is, however doable because of the presence of God and oh so worth it. I am humbled by Nicole's resilience and determination and so pleased to call her my friend.

—Sherryl Gollhofer, Sponsor

The St. Thomas More RCIA Team would like to introduce the catechumens and candidates sent to the Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion in San Diego on February 14, 2016.

The Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion invites all the catechumens (the unbaptized), candidates (those who have received only Baptism), and the faithful into a time of intense preparation, by prayer and spiritual recollection, for the celebration and/or renewal of Baptism at the Easter Vigil.

This step moves these members into the period of Purification and Enlightenment. The "enlightenment" is the experience of a personal encounter with Christ the Savior during the community's Lenten retreat in prayer. With the faithful and the already baptized candidates, the Elect purify their minds and hearts as they each examine their conscience and do penance.

Ashley Bowling, Catechumen

I am pleased to introduce you to Ashley Bowling, a wonderful wife and mother. Unity with her husband, David, in his faith and raising their daughter, Kennedy, with faith and religion are what brought Ashley to the Catholic Church. Ashley has spent time searching for the answers to questions that her belief in Jesus, and desire to join the Catholic Church have raised.

During this search, Ashley's faith has grown exponentially, and she has found answers that have confirmed for her the desire to belong to our Catholic family. Ashley's excitement to become fully initiated in the Catholic Church is wonderful and inspiring. It has been my pleasure to walk beside her on this part of her journey.

—Theresa Goeltz, Sponsor



Tina Lazcano, Catechumen

It is a privilege to introduce my sister Tina. She is an amazing woman and mother with a kind heart and beautiful spirit. She attended Mass at St. Thomas

More faithfully with me and my husband for two years before deciding to sign up for the RCIA program. Tina has completely immersed herself in the process, has never missed a class and is eager to learn everything about the Catholic faith while strengthening her relationship with Christ. She is definitely ready and excited to receive the sacraments at the Easter Vigil.

—Anita Spencer, Sponsor





Kayla Chen, Candidate

Kayla is a 13 year-old eighth grader at Vista Magnet Middle School. Her hobbies include volleyball and arts and crafts. Kayla is an active part of the EDGE middle school group and is so excited to receive her sacraments of initiation at the Easter Vigil. She comes to St. Thomas More supported by her loving parents, Lek and Cecilia. They look forward to worshipping and participating at Mass as a family and watching their family bond strengthen as they grow in deeper relationship with Christ.

—Julia Rodriguez, Sponsor



Mykaela Mestas and Sancia Navarro, Candidates

Sancia and Mykaela are our mother/daughter duo this year. Mykaela is a 13 year-old eighth grader at San Elijo Middle School. Sancia is the wife of Sergio and mother to three children, Mykaela (13), Aiden (6) and Victoria (10 months). It is such a gift to see these two with such enthusiasm to learn about the Catholic faith. Sancia has become an active member of the Thursday evening Bible Study and was inspired through the baptism of her daughter to come back to the church. Mykaela is an outgoing member of the EDGE youth group and has also become very involved in helping out with the REACH afternoon classes. Both mother and daughter love spending quality time together while learning about their faith and a God who truly loves them.

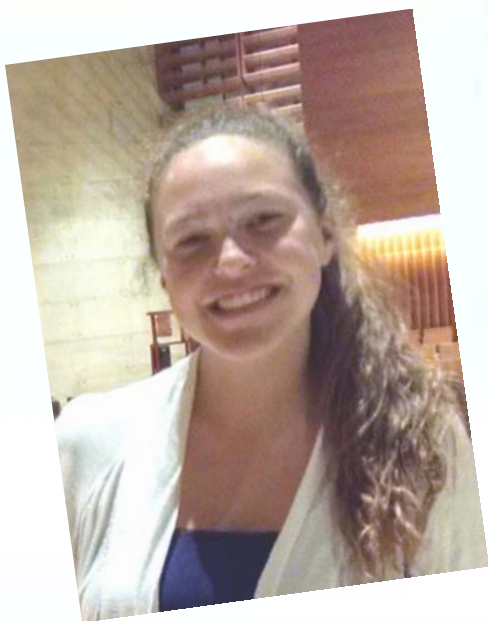
—Debbie Fredette, Sponsor and Ellie Keane, Sponsor



Benjamén Davis, Catechumen

Ben is a 10 year-old fourth grader at Palmquist Elementary. His favorite hobbies are basketball, soccer, and going to the beach. Ben approaches learning about his faith with enthusiasm and humor, and we love to see him process out each Sunday with the REACH backpack in hand! He comes to us through the loving support and encouragement of his mom, Laurie, who is eager to see him fully initiated into the Catholic faith. Ben comes with many questions about his faith and he is so open to learning the answers.

—Ryan Green, Sponsor



Ashley Pingel, Candidate

Ashley is 14 and in ninth grade at Guajome Academy High School. She loves school, reading books, and she is on the high school basketball team. Ashley is an active member of our High School Year 1 class and has become super involved in helping with our Genesis program on Sunday mornings. Ashley approaches her faith exactly the way she approaches life...with the hugest, brightest, most beautiful smile ever! She has the ongoing love and support of her parents Aaron and Jennifer and shows a tremendous amount of love and support to her younger sister, Caitlin, who is also coming into the church this year.

—Madison Fredette, Sponsor



Caitlin Pingel, Candidate

Caitlin is in the fifth grade at Guajome Academy and enjoys school, hanging with friends, eating healthy, and being active. She has a tremendous love for the great outdoors and enjoys hiking with her family and her dogs. Caitlin is an active participant in our REACH program and has met many new friends in her classes. Caitlin looks forward to Easter Vigil where she will be able to participate at Mass with her whole family. Caitlin shows her excitement for her faith on the inside and we just love to listen to her open and honest answers in class. She always makes us laugh!

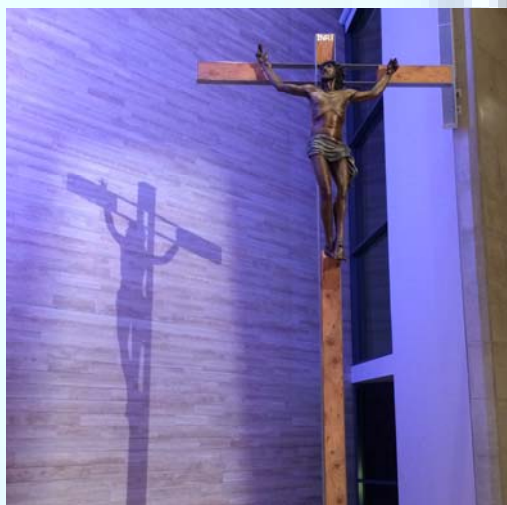
—Emilie Vancelette, Sponsor



Matthew Souza, Catechumen

Matt is a 12 year-old middle schooler who plays sports all year round. He is a high-energy kid who loves football, baseball, and basketball. Matt loves to learn about the history of the Catholic Church. His journey to the faith has been an amazing one. Over a year ago, Matt walked into St. Thomas More and announced in a meeting with Deacon John that he wanted to be Catholic. Through much hard work and commitment, he will realize his goal of full initiation into the Catholic church at Easter Vigil—an accomplishment his parents, John and Charlotte, are very proud of.

—Tommy Toole, Sponsor





Brandon Caringer, Candidate

I am honored to introduce Brandon Caringer to our community at St. Thomas More. Brandon is a big man with a warm heart. He is a dedicated husband and father to three beautiful little girls. It has been a pleasure walking with Brandon during this part of his faith journey as he strives to follow Jesus and his Church. Brandon's progress during RCIA has been inspiring to me; his questions and insight have proven that he is ready for full initiation into the Church. His strong faith in our Lord will undoubtedly serve to strengthen both his family and our community. I am proud to be Brandon's sponsor and to call him a friend.

—Michael Haubert, Sponsor



Justin Goltz, Candidate

I am excited to announce Justin Goltz's full integration into the faith. Born and baptized a Catholic, Justin will complete his commitment to his chosen faith as he is confirmed and receives Holy Eucharist at the Easter Vigil. Married to his Catholic wife, Meri-de, Justin and his expectant wife (due Feb 7) and their two sons, Braxton and Brady have been attending Mass at STM since September 2013. Justin is a loving husband and great dad. From the first time the family attended Mass at STM they felt at home. They all are especially appreciative of the welcome of like-minded young families, as well as the men's and women's active groups within the church. He is looking forward to giving back to the church, as it has given his family so much over the past few years. Through the RCIA process, I have witnessed Justin's sincere desire to learn, experience, and fully participate in the Catholic faith he calls his own. I personally can't wait to welcome Justin in. Like Justin's soul, our parish community will be enriched. Amen.

—John Carroll, Sponsor

Toni Dopirak, Candidate

What an honor and privilege it has been to share this faith journey with Candidate Toni Dopirak. Toni's search for 'truth' has been both moving and inspirational. As a wife, mother, and young grandmother, Toni loved and nurtured others and in the process learned the joy of family. As she embraces full initiation into the Catholic Church, Toni will become a member of the Church's family where she'll continue her journey with all of us. How blessed we'll be to have her.

Toni's soft and gentle ways mask the strength of her character and her absolute determination to find the mission that Our Lord prepared for her – a mission meant for her and her alone. As Toni receives the initiation sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation, she'll experience the strength of the Holy Spirit who will join her in that search and lead her to all truths.

I may have been Toni's sponsor on this faith journey but she taught me far more than I could ever have taught her about courage and the joy of discovering God's unique and total love for us. Please join me in welcoming Toni to our warm and inviting faith community here at St. Thomas More Catholic Church.

—Jane Gladden, Sponsor



Sharon Johnson, Candidate

Sharon is a voracious learner. Every week you can count that she has read every word of the readings and made notes and comments all over it. That was what impressed me first thing. But secondly, what I found is that she does not just live in her head but her faith is deep and ever growing. She takes what she learns and then looks to see how to apply it to her life and relationships. When I found out that she is the one who comes early and helps set up the drinks tray for us all I was not surprised. That is why I have no hesitation in sponsoring her for the Sacraments of Initiation at Easter Vigil.

—Diantha Zschoche, Sponsor



The Spirited Seniors present a bus trip to the 2016 Pageant of Our Lord

Rolling Hills Covenant Church in Rolling Hills

Saturday, March 19, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.



The Pageant of Our Lord is a theatrical masterpiece where people are transformed into painted models and placed into some of the world's most renowned works of art. The program, whose concept originated from Laguna Beach's Pageant of the Masters, utilizes the talents of over 350 volunteers. The show is accompanied by an inspiring musical score by the Rolling Hills Covenant Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra and narrated with an original script. Visit www.pageantofourlord.com for more details.

\$55 per person for members or \$60 per person for non-members

You must purchase tickets by Thursday, March 10

for this spectacular March 19 performance!

Price includes bus transportation, performance, lunch at Souplantation, and all gratuities.

Meet on Saturday, March 19, at the STM Parking Lot at 7:00am.

Please complete the registration form with your check made out to "STM Spirited Seniors."

Place it in an envelope marked "Pageant of Our Lord"

and return it to the offertory collection or the Parish Office, Box 12, by March 10.

For more information, contact Jim and Marilyn Day 760-509-4545.



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The Spirited Seniors Pageant of Our Lord • March 19 • Reservation forms due by March 10

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Office for Schools

January 15, 2016

Dear Catholic School Parents,

The Diocese of San Diego has a rich tradition of educating generations of Catholics in our local parishes and schools. We are the largest private school system in the area, encompassing 50 schools in two counties, San Diego and Imperial, and impacting the lives of approximately 15,000 children in our elementary and high schools. The potential for growing our impact is unparalleled in this region, and that is why supporting Catholic education is vital to building the future of our local Church.

The 2016-2017 school year marks the diocese's second year of the **Bishop Flores Scholars Tuition Assistance Program** to provide **annual K-12 tuition assistance totaling \$1,000,000.00**. We believe that Catholic education should be both affordable and accessible to every child and family who desires it regardless of their background, neighborhood, family income, or culture.

Our mission is to provide tuition assistance for children in need to attend Catholic schools in the Diocese of San Diego. Direct support of our Catholic families is critical to the success of our Catholic schools and to meeting that same mission. In addition to providing a quality Catholic education for San Diego and Imperial County children, our schools provide a character formation education where children are instilled with Catholic values, thus preparing them to lead as globally aware and productive citizens.

In honor of *Catholic Schools Week*, **families may apply for the Bishop Flores Scholars Tuition Assistance Program beginning January 29, 2016 through March 18, 2016**. For information on eligibility, deadlines, applicant qualifications, award distributions, costs, recipient responsibilities and other facts, please talk to your local school's administrators and visit the Bishop Flores Scholars Tuition Assistance Program website at <http://www.bishopfloresscholars.org>.

Thank you in advance for your interest and participation in the Bishop Flores Scholars Tuition Assistance Program. You are directly supporting our vision for the total mission of our schools: *"Not only will these children become the Church of tomorrow, but they will also fill the most important roles in leadership and ministry as the Church reaches out to the world."*

In Christ,



John Galvan
Director, Office for Schools