

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



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Fourth Sunday of Easter April 17, 2016

Pastor's Column

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

There Are Not Enough Jars and Buttons

(I wrote this reflection a number of years ago, but I wanted to share it again during this Jubilee Year of Mercy.)

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish, but may have eternal life. Indeed God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

—John 3: 16-17

Each year in parish life as children (and their parents) begin the process of preparation for the celebration of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist, I am taken back to my childhood and my "getting ready" for my First Confession as it was called back then in 1957.

In preparation for my first confession, I began thinking about some practical ways in which I could remember my sins so that I could tell them to the priest accurately in terms of kind and number. From somewhere, I got the idea that I would use my mother's mason jars (that she used for canning...does anyone still can?) and her buttons (she had a plenitude in her sewing basket).

The plan was simple, so I thought. I would have a jar, in my chest of drawers in my bedroom, for each sin that I would commit. I would then place a button in the jar for each time that I committed that specific sin. This seemed to be a foolproof way of keeping in good stead with God!

Very quickly, much to my amazement, I ran out of jars and out of buttons! I was overwhelmed. I could not keep track, that is, I could not itemize and record in a logical way the sinful actions of my life. And I was only 9 years old! My life was not yet very complicated.

At that moment, I quietly returned the jars and buttons to my mother. I, unconsciously, surrendered to God in a sense of grand wonderment that I would not be able to be "in control" in terms of my relationship with God.

(Continued on page 2)

Annual Catholic Appeal
Have you made your pledge/gift?
If yes, thank you! If no, pray about it.



Be merciful just as your Father is merciful.

It took some years to put into words, but I then, at that young age, allowed God to be God and allowed me to be me. I knew that God loved me in my strengths and in my weaknesses. I needed simply to accept that. I needed to surrender and to allow God to love me. I needed to just allow myself to examine my life in God's light, to sincerely express my sorrow and to keep attempting to do better, knowing that God's patience never runs out.

This child-like gift of faith has been with me my entire life. I have always taken God "with me" into virtue and into vice. God knows me! I can't hide my life from God. In my weakness, in my sin, I continue to ask God for forgiveness and then, once again, continue my attempts to change attitudes and behavior; to let go of what it is I need to let go and to grab hold of what it is I need to hold. My faith tells me that God's patience never runs out. As I continue to surrender to God and allow God to love me, I experience God's grace and power to help me, little by little, in my growing into holiness (wholeness).

I give thanks to God that, so early in life, I learned that there are not enough jars and buttons.

Just surrender!

There is nothing we can do to make God love us more.

There is nothing we can do to make God love us less.



Annual Catholic Appeal

Thanks to all those who have responded already!

Pledges to date: \$30,442 Families responding: 193 Average pledge per family: \$157.73

Our assessment this year is \$50,000—help us meet it!

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.

Heartletter

St. Thomas More Catholic Church has reached another milestone: more than 500 members of the Parish have been trained and certified in CPR. We urge those who have not had this training and those who have not been certified within the last two years to take advantage of classes scheduled this month and in May. Classes will be held on Saturday, May 21, 9:30am-1:00pm. An Infant/Child class will be held on Wednesday, April 20, 9:30am-1:00pm. Contact Dr. Phil Goscienski at 760-732-1414 or drphilg@cox.net to sign up for one of these classes.

Welcome New Parishioners Paul Consiglio & Family

Robert & Kristin Jenkins & Family Paul & Tammy Rogers Javier & Kaitlynn Segi

Announcing the Baptisms of

Troy Iosefa Segi

on April 17

Our Christian community welcomes you with great joy!



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

STM \$crip 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? Use Amazon Smile (see *www.stmoside.org/scrip.htm* for details) and a portion of your purchase will be donated to St. Thomas More.

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

Help Feed the Hungry

Pope Francis reminds us:

"You pray for the hungry.

Then you feed them.

That's how prayer works."

Although life coaches tell us that it takes twenty-one days for a new practice to become a habit, it's not that simple.

STM OUTREACH

Good habits are formed daily by putting in a lot of effort.

During the forty days of Lent, we saw a huge increase in our efforts to feed the hungry in our local community.

Now is the time to reinforce this practice. A visual reminder on your fridge will help you form the habit of bringing a **nonperishable** food item each weekend when you come to Mass.

Thank you for your generosity!

Readings for the Week Ahead

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

Sunday, April 17 (51) Fourth Sunday of Easter Acts 13:14,43-52 Psalm 100:1-3,5 Revelation 5:9,14b-17 John 10:27-30 Monday, April 18 (279) Psalms 42:2-3;43:3-4 John 10:1-10 **Tuesday, April 19** (280) Acts 11:19-26 Psalm 87:1b-7 John 10:22-30 Wednesday, April 20 (281) Acts 12:24–13:5a Psalm 67:2-3,5-6,8 John 12:44-50 Thursday, April 21 (552) Anselm, bishop, doctor Ephesians 3:14-19 Psalm 34:2-11 Matthew 7:21-29 Friday, April 22 (283) Acts 13:26-33 Psalm 2:6-11b John 14:1-6 Saturday, April 23 (284) George, martyr; Adalbert, bishop, martyr Acts 13:44-52 Psalm 98:1-4 John 14:7-14 **Sunday, April 24** (54) Fifth Sunday of Easter Acts 14:21-27 Psalm 145:8-13 Revelation 21:1-5a John 13:31-33a,34-35

Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 16, 5:00pm Steve Calder &

Sunday, April 17, 8:30am Willard Dowling ♥

Sunday, April 17, 10:30am Elsa Libreros ♥

Monday, April 18, 8:15am Arthur McCluskey ♥

Tuesday, April 19, 8:15am Mary Gorski ♥

Wednesday, April 20, 8:15am Ralph Mueller ♥

Thursday, April 21, 8:15am William Brogan ♥

Friday, April 22, 8:15am Lucy Retz 🕈

Saturday, April 23, 5:00pm Annamae & Marie Lavelle ♥

Sunday, April 24, 8:30am Bradley Johnson ♥

Sunday, April 24, 10:30am Robert Kranz, Sr. 🕆 Prayer List (Call 760-758-4100 x102 to add a name for four weeks.)

Changa Aguilera Ernie Aichele Emie Aichele
Mary Alexander
Christine & Cory Anderson
The Arce & Colfer Families
Carrie Autrey
Joshua Avery
Addison Abigail Aviña
Rosemary Ballard
Jose Luis Barbosa
Patricia Barbour
Francie Barron 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 Browne
Katie Browne Janet Brown
Katie Browne
Jack & Mary Bruzas
Anita Buerger
Jean Calderone
Shelby Campbell
Brianne Campos
Aria Cappellui
Jorge Cartajena
Donald Cashmore
Anne Caywood Doñald Cashmore
Anne Caywood
The Vaughn Clevenger Family
Anne Cline
Carl & Dorothy Coleman
James Coleman
Judy Colson
The Virginia H. Conlin Family
Karen Connell
Geoff Coolidge
Steven Cresencia
Lené Crowe
Karen Flaharty Daley
Emma Davenport & Family
Beverly de Gélder
Velia Deal & Family
Nick Del Sesto
Paul Del Vecchio
Hugo Delgado, Jr.
Cassandra D'Ercole
Christine DeSantis
Cecilia DeSimone
David deVillenueve
Carole Dillon
Elizabeth Doherty's Aunt Jackie
Art & Dave Dossman
Marge Egan
Jeroine Elbacha
Arthur Eral
Carolyn Erickson Ey
Victoria Lopez Fenton
The Fiore Family
Fr. James Flanagan
Mary Fleming
Ryan Flum
Eimie Follis
Al Fortaleza
Eugene Franciscus
Kathryn Franklin
The Greg French Family
Brian Frink
Jim Gallagher
The Joe Garcia Family
Kathy Gardner
Joan Gay
Alyssa Gerhard
The Gillen Family
Merle Glime
Wendy Gonzales' Dad
Rick Gonzalez
Lou Gordon
George Gritt
Luke Guenst
Susan Hallahan Anne Caywood The Vaughn Clevenger Family Tillie Gonzalez
Lou Gordon
George Gritt
Luke Guenst
Susan Hallahan
Colleen Hanna
Pat & Tom Hannon
The Harker Family
Anthony Harris
Dorothy Harrison & Family
Barbara Hatem
Bill & Mary Haynes
Lilian Hills
Lisa (Lynn) Hodges
Samara Hook
Susan Hori
The Kenny Hunt Family
Iolanda Iacobelli
Katherine Jacobs
Sue Johnston
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
Pauline Lapre's sister Justine
Brandon LeBlanc
Susan Lee
Lake Lefferdink Jusa Leefferdink
Jeremiah Lemus
Aleah Leon
Ashley Load
Cassandra & Lauren Loretto
Jack Lucarelli
Joaquin Maldonado
The Maldonado Family
The Maldonado Family
Paige Mansell
Gloria Maupin
Colleen McCall
Virginia McConnell
Paige McCoy
The McGinley Family
Ann McMahan
Bob McWilliams
Jove Meehan
Kalei Mendiola
Lorraine Micallef
Rita Mikridge
Tom Miller
Phyllis Minava
June Mitchell
Maria Molina
Mary Monson
June Montgomery
Jim Moore
Rizabeth Muehlbacher
Conrad Murphy
Eddie Murphy
Margie Myers
Angela Nacional
Melanie Nacional
Mida Navarro
Richard Obsitnik
Kare O' Dell
Laura Paciorek Gloor
Ethan Palm
Cynthia Pearson
Salina Pearson Nick Soltau
Bob Sorenson
Drew Spangler
Darek, Vanessa, & Elba Spizewski
Don St. Pierre
Patricia St. Pierre
Patricia St. Pierre
Sybil Staples
Mike Sterling
Laura Bernard Stover, MD
Pete Sullivan
Pat Swanton
Julie Teare
Tommy, & Ginger Thompson
Sarah Tillinghast
William Tompson
Stephen Toth, Jr.
Olivia Trejo
The Trejo/Beltran Family
The Trejo/Maldonado/Uribe Family
Anthony Ver-Meer & Family
Martin Vertson
Lucy Vienna
Lucy Vienna
Lucy Vienna
Lucy Vienna
Lucy Viramontes
Vanessa Vitiello
Wilson Wanner
Kevin Watson-Graff
Jerry Wechsler
Rylee West
The Xavier Family
Patricia Zavala
Jeanne Zeltner

Calendar Highlights

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

Apr 16-17 Get on the Bus Item
Collection
Apr 17 Liturgy of the Word for
Children at 8:30am and
10:30am Masses
Apr 17 REACH Classes at Church
Apr 23-24 Get on the Bus Item
Collection
Apr 24 Liturgy of the Word for

Children at 8:30am and 10:30am Masses Apr 29 STM Gala

May 8 Confirmation at 10:30am Mass May 19 Spirited Seniors Coaster Trip to Old Town May 29 Memorial Day

Un 10-12 Choral Concert

Jun 20-24 Annual Campout

Vacation Bible School

Jul 24 Pastor's Dinner

Sep 11 Wine Tasting Event Sep 25 New Member Luncheon

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

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.

April 18
Sr. Francisca Olvera, OLVM

April 19
Sr. Brigida Ornelas, SJS

April 20
Sr. Carol Pack, SSS

April 21
Sr. M. Gabriele Paz Y Puente Rodriguez, MC

April 22
Sr. Maria Louisa Pelayo, SJS

April 23
Sr. M. Carmelita Perez Carrillo, MC

April 24

Sr. Fernanda Pesqueira, TM

Social Ministries & Outreach

Get on the Bus 2016

Once again, our Parish will be participating in the *Get On the Bus Program* which brings children to visit their incarcerated mothers on the Friday before Mother's Day! Each year thousands of children throughout California travel by bus to the prison where their mother



is confined. Mother and child spend the day hugging, visiting, crying, playing games, eating lunch, and making memories until next Mother's Day. The children spend about 10 hours on the bus in order to share 3-4 hours this one day of the year.

St. Thomas More Parish, along with other San Diego faith communities, is supporting a bus to the Central California Women's Facility (CCWF) in Chowchilla. Please see the flyer in last week's bulletin describing how you can be of help in bringing these mothers and children together. Some of the items needed have changed from the past, so please review the flyer carefully! The envelope that was attached last week can be used for monetary donations through April 26.

We will be accepting items for the next two weekends before Masses and through April 26 at the Parish Office. Every item on the flyer is used for GOTB. (If we have excess items, they will be shared with other congregations collecting for the children who will visit their dads near Father's Day.)

Have questions or want to volunteer? Contact Sr. Maureen Brown at 760-758-4100 x131 or maureenb@stmoside.org.

St. Bonaventure Indian Mission

Although our clothing and shoe drive will not be until the second weekend in November, it is not too early to start now in setting aside those items that no longer fit, are out of style, or just no longer cared for...and perhaps your neighbors and coworkers could do the same. The Navajos the Mission helps are among the poorest of the poor in our great country. Please help them! Any questions, contact Deacon Tom at *thomasgoeltz@aol.com* or 760-727-8442.

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.

Mental Health America of San Diego County will present "Mental Health First Aid" at St. Patrick Church in Carlsbad on Saturday, April 16. Lunch will be provided and space is limited to 25 participants. Please contact Martha Ackman to register at *mmackman5@gmail.com* or 760-443-8783.

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! We'll be having a park play date on Monday, April 18, 3:00-



5:00pm. There are many other events throughout the month posted on our private Facebook page. Join us! Contact Jen Abelson at *jen.abelson@gmail.com*.

Civil to Church Marriage—Are you civilly married, but haven't yet been married in the church? Contact Fr. Mike at michaelr@stmoside.org to begin your preparation!

Bishops' Letter on Marriage—The Trinity and Marriage: "To be created in the image and likeness of God means, therefore, that human beings reflect not the life of a solitary deity, but the communal life of the Trinity. Human beings were created not to live solitary lives, but to live in communion with God and with one another, a communion that is both life-giving and loving." To read the document go to http://www.usccb.org/loveandlife/.

Marriage Moments—After the last child leaves home, Mom and Dad may wake up and wonder who they are looking at. Somewhere over the years, they've gotten so involved in their children's lives that they forgot about each other. Prepare for an empty nest by paying attention to your honey today. Plan a date for this week. By Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net

Parenting Pointers—(Friday is Earth Day) On this Earth Day take stock of what your family already recycles (paper, plastic, cans...) Can you add one more thing to recycle? Better yet, can you refrain from buying something that needs recycling? We call it "precycling." By Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net

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

Brother Benno's

This Season of Joy for the risen Christ sometimes makes it easy to forget that Jesus sent his disciples (us) out to spread the good news, not only by proclaiming the Gospel, but, more importantly, by living it...taking care of our less fortunate neighbors, clothing the naked, and feeding the poor. Brother Benno's does this better than any other agency here in North County. Although STM will not have any "formal" collections for them until later in the summer, their needs continue every month...every day. Please remember them during this "off season". Any questions, contact Deacon Tom at *thomasgoeltz@aol.com* or 760-727-8442.

Looking for a Way to Be Involved?

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







Parish Events

Women's Guild News

The Women's Guild semi-annual Bake Sale takes place this weekend on the plaza after each Mass. Be sure to stop by the tables and choose a goody to take home, while at the same time help with the Mortgage and Building Completion Fund. Many thanks to our contributing bakers who make it possible...and delicious!

Our April meeting was quite fascinating, thanks to Sally Fay's "Pedals and Pistons and Pipes...Oh My" program of how the church's organ works. She and Douglas Lynn, Director of Liturgy and Music, moved the organ out to the center of the church for us all to have a clear view of its workings. We are sure to have Sally back for an encore next year, there is so much more to know about this marvelous "King of Instruments". Thank you Sally and Douglas!

The Victorian Garden Tea was a huge success! Many thanks to co-chairs Maureen Tutino and Mary Dahlberg whose hard work on this enormous project paid off! Guests enjoyed decorating their own tables and unique hats were the talk of the day. Prizes were awarded to those judged to be the Best Tables and Hats, and there were door prizes for the lucky ticket holders. Delicious and savory items, tea sandwiches, scones, and little desserts were downed with lots of tea by 101 ladies in attendance. We had such a good time we can't wait until next year's tea!

May's luncheon meeting (May 9 on your calendar) agenda is full, and includes election of Board members for the coming year, a special May dedication to our Blessed Mother Mary, Rebecca Eyer's review of her recently published book *My Journey In and Out of Community*, and hopefully, we will be able to present the slide show of our year's activities. Be sure to bring your books for the book exchange too! As a bonus, Judy Smith will be selling her remaining copies of her children's book, *Egree's Journey*. Judy has generously offered to donate a percentage of her sales to the Women's Guild Treasury. Thank you Judy! Last but not least, a barbeque lunch will be the menu offering. Hopefully, we will still have time for Bingo! Stay tuned!

Have a blessed week! —Kathy Gerhard, president

Catholic Widows and Widowers of North County

On Sunday, April 24, CWWNC will gather here at STM for communal Mass at 10:30am, followed by lunch at Nucci's. This is a great opportunity for prospective members to get acquainted with our group. Check the bulletin board in the Parish Center Lower Level or visit www.cwwnc.com for our calendar of events including bowling, bocce ball, golf, dining out, hiking, and more! RSVP's are required. For more information, call Carol Kope at 760-726-0533.

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.**



Limited Seating Available ~ register today! STM GALA ~ Social Event of the Year!

Deadline to turn in item donations: Tuesday, April 19

Happy Hour at 4:30pm kicks off our fundraising event!

AMAZING Raffle, Silent and Live Auction items, include Trips to Cancun, Puerta Vallarta, or Cabo San Lucas plus local Staycation fun and more.



Lots of chances to win FUN Wheel of Fortune prizes including the latest \$2,200 value Samsung curved big-screen TV!!!

Dinner is served at 6:15pm \$50/person for a delicious dinner Vegetarian option available upon request

Plus reserve your spot for the *Pastor's Dinner*

Sunday, July 24 ★ 5:00-8:00pm at the beautiful Crossings Restaurant in Carlsbad \$150/per person (\$75 tax deductible)

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

Take St. Thomas More Home!

St. Thomas More Tapestries, 26" x 30", are available for \$200 each. This "one of a kind" tapestry 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 nine 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.

Culture of Life News

Members of the parish Culture of Life Group pray the Rosary at the Vista Planned Parenthood each Thursday morning from 10:00-11:00am. This is a prayerful, non-confrontational event. It is located on Via Center Drive in Vista. For more information, please contact Jane Kelleher at 760-822-7041.

Liturgy & Music Worship God

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

EASTER SIGNS AND SYMBOLS

Bread

In the old days, before yeast was readily available at markets, many households kept some alive in a crock stored somewhere warm in the kitchen. The yeast was tended by adding flour and water as needed. A bit of it leavened each batch of bread dough. Eventually bacteria would get into leaven, which made it stink to high heaven. What's worse, contaminated leaven failed to make bread rise. So it got thrown out and some was borrowed from a neighbor to start fresh. At Passover, the Jewish people make a communal ritual of this new beginning by tossing out the old leaven and by eating unleavened bread until new yeast develops.



For Christians, the action of fresh yeast is an emblem resurrection and a sign of the life-giving Spirit. Saint Paul told the Corinthians throw out the old yeast so that the new—the gospel-could raise them up (see 1 Cor 5:6b-8).

With your companions (a word that means "those we break bread with"). celebrate the season with Easter breads, perhaps with a babka, brioche. lambropsomo (Greek "shining bread"), hot cross buns, or colomba di Pasqua (Italian "Easter dove"). These can be savory symbols of the bread of life, the risen Christ, who is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.

Wood

On Good Friday two crisscrossed planks of lumber were carried into church. A voice sang out, "This is the wood of the cross, on which hung the Savior of the world." And all of us gathered there stepped forward to give glory to God by venerating this holy wood.

For us Christians, wood calls many things to mind: A cypress ark saved creation from the flood. Moses held high his walking stick to divide the sea. When God asked Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac, the boy carried the wood for his own funeral pyre. But God chose life, not death, for Abraham's beloved son.

There is a legend that the cross of Christ was hewn from Eden's long-dead tree of life. The blood of Christ brought this wood to life so that it flowered afresh.



In your home, honor the lifegiving cross. Hang it in the place you pray. If you have no cross, a couple branches make a fine one. During this Easter season keep some spring flowers alongside it.

This year, April 29 is National Arbor Day. Celebrate the

resurrection by planting a tree. Give God glory that two ordinary pieces of wood have become a promise of paradise.

—Peter Mazur ©2001 LTP



My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

John 10:27

Art and Environment in the Liturgical Space

Flowers during Ordinary Time help us journey through the time between Advent and Christmas, Lent, and Easter—our worship space in Ordinary Time mirrors creation, accenting the green with the brightly colored flowers of spring and summer as well as the rich hues of autumn and winter. Flowers help celebrate our joys and comfort our sorrows.

Thank you to all who graciously donated flowers this past Liturgical year. Whether it was to commemorate a loved one, celebrate a special occasion, or in thanksgiving for a special intention, the flowers enhanced our liturgies and brought with them a measure of elegance and grace.

The 2016 Flower Donation Calendar is available now—please stop by Henny's desk to reserve your special date—we all appreciate it so much!

—Kathy Arciero Liturgy Chairperson Art & Environment

Upcoming Music

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APRIL 24 5th Sunday of Easter

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5:00pm

Sanctuary Choir

8:30am

Praise Team

10:30am

Cappella Choir

Faith Formation

Teach and Live the Gospel

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

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

Family Faith Formation

Today is a REACH Sunday!

Registration for REACH Classes for 2016/2017 has begun! Get your packet today!



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.



Don't Forget yYur LENTEN Rice Bowls Are Due Back Bring Them to REACH Class on April 17!

Vacation Bible School June 20-24 Return your registration today. Spaces are limited!





Register Today For Steubenville San Diego July 29-31

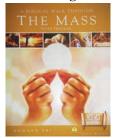
All Teens Grades 8-12 Are Invited!!

We only have 30 spots available! Don't miss out on a great weekend to know Jesus better! For more information on how to help a teen go to Steubenville Conference contact the Faith Formation Office.

Adult Faith Formation

Register Today for Morning or Evening Bible Studies

Only 5 Sessions!! Start Your Summer Off Right!



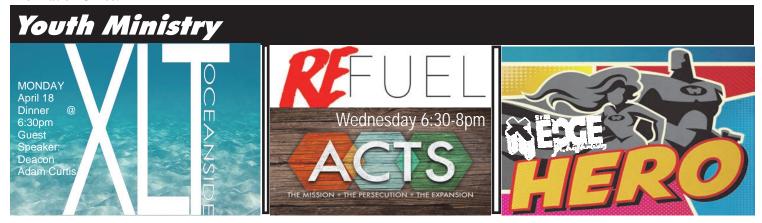
Cost is \$25 for the 5 sessions

A Biblical Walk Through the Mass With Dr. Edward Sri

Beginning
Wednesday morning, May 4, or
Thursday evening, May 5.
Sign Up today to
register and get your workbook.
Contact the Faith Formation
Office or Patt Goeltz at
pattg@stmoside.org
for more information.

Support Tommy's Café After Masses!

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 help provide a scholarship.



Stewardship & Development Serve God's People

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

Collection for Week of April 9/10, 2016		
Number of Registered Households	1,207	
Offertory	\$18,910.71	
Offertory (Loose Collection)	\$1,315.00	
Total	\$20,225.71	

Mortgage/Building Completion Fund Income September 15, 2014 to March 31, 2016

Mortgage Payment Overage/(Shortfall)	(\$34,291.59)
Mortgage Payment Due	\$822,175.78
Payment toward Mortgage	\$787,884.19
Payment toward Parish Reserves (10%)	\$87,542.69
Less Administrative Costs	\$39,577.00
Mortgage Offering Collected	\$884,372.88

\$1,440,079.90 Memorial Items

> Please continue to support the Mortgage/Building Completion Fund!

"Did You Know " Collection March 2016 \$10.550.34

Restaurant Fundraisers March 2016 Felicia's

\$105.30

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

A WAY TO GIVE ~ A WAY TO RECEIVE



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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.

Stewardship of the Earth

This year, spring ushers in Earth Day 2016 on April 22. This year's theme is "Trees for the Earth" and we're all encouraged to plant a tree.



But environmental stewardship goes way beyond our ability to plant a tree. There are so many ways to honor Earth Day.

As Christian stewards, we know that our ongoing commitment to stewardship of the earth is growing increasingly important. Pope Francis has led the way with his encyclical, "On Care of Our Common Home," and he makes it very clear that stewardship of the environment is front and center for Christians in this time of environmental degradation. "Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience."

The year 2015 was our hottest in recorded history. We've all heard the frightening stories of sea levels rising, threatening islands and even some of our coastal cities. "Hundred year storms" are becoming increasingly common. Pope Francis, in the paragraph cited above, also says our ecological crisis is "a summons to profound interior conversion."

- Keep canvas bags in your car for grocery shopping
- Always recycle and forego plastic
- Commit to a few degrees difference in heating and A/C
- Wash clothes in cold water/hang dry when possible
- Restrict lawn watering and time your showers.
- Commit to buying less "stuff" and living more simply
- Turn off power strips when not in use
- Be an example to your children and grandchildren

—partially excerpted from ICSC April 2016 e-bulletin (with permission)

Recycling has been a way of life for our family for as far back as I can remember. Canvas bags are SO much easier for grocery shopping! Lots of the tips above are daily habit for us now. If you haven't started, now is a great time. You won't regret it!—Chris

Keep in mind: stewardship of the earth is "essential to a life of virtue."

Memorial Item Donations Available

Pipe Organ	\$850,000
Christ on the Road to Emmaus Bronze Sculpture for Daily Mass Chapel	\$27,000
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

Jesus, Divine Redeemer and Master of the Universe Mosaic Panels for Memorial Garden (54) 13 available	\$5,000/each
Priests' Concelebration Vestments (4) 4 available	\$400/each
Pew Seating for the Church (1,000) 708 available	\$300/each
Daily Mass Chapel and Choir Chairs (200) 93 available	\$300/each
Altar Server Albs (15) 8 available	\$125/each
	04/12/16

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*

STM Vehicle Donation Program

Do you have a vehicle you want to donate? Call us, and we'll have it picked up operational or not!

You get the tax deduction!

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



As of April 4 we have netted \$63,407 from this program. Thank you donors!



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

The Larger Church News

San Luis Rey Chorale Presents Requiem: Music to Soothe the Soul and Honor the Memory of Loved Ones—Friday, April 29, 7:00pm and Saturday, April 30, 3:00pm, Mission San Luis Rey, 4050 Mission Ave., Oceanside. For more information, visit http://tinyurl.com/zfxtkwr.

Sister Servants of the Blessed Sacrament Convent Tour—Saturday, April 30, 10:00am-2:00pm. For the first time the general public is offered guided tours of the San Ysidro, Bonita, and El Cajon convents! Visit convents in any order. Time for prayer in each chapel. \$25 suggested donation. For tickets and information, visit www.sisterservantssjs.org or call 619-292-2971.

St. Francis Women's Retreat—April 29-May 1, Vina de Lestonnac in Temecula. Mark your calendar now and please join us for the 27th Annual St. Francis Women's Retreat "You Are God's Beloved."

Birth Choice Women's Spring Luncheon—Saturday, May 7, 11:00am-1:30pm, Green Dragon Tavern & Museum, 6115 Paseo del Norte, Carlsbad. Tickets \$40/person or \$320/table. Guest speaker Andrea Yim from Pro-ject Life. Register at birthchoicedonors.net.



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

Online Post-Abortion Support—Visit abortionchangesyou.com.

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.

Young Adult Opportunities around the Diocese

Holy Heroes! A Day Retreat for All Young Adults (18-39), Saturday, March 12, 8:30am-6:00pm

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

St. Francis Church News

525 W. Vista Way, Vista • 760-945-8000 • stfrancis-vista.org

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

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

Visit this link for a video about the school: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d2CaXZVBA7s&feature=youtu.be



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www.stmoside.org • Parishoffice@stmoside.org
Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30-12:00noon and 12:30-4:00pm

Parish Contacts

Updated 02/10/2016

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

Pastoral Council Committees	Treasures Rummage SaleJohn & Wendy Murphy 760-497-6117
Religious Education/Faith Formation/Evangelization	Walking MinistryDiane Pal 760-815-2519
Rengious Education/Faith Formation/EvangenzationRory Griffin 760-414-3939	Women's GuildKathy Gerhard 760-732-5951
Religious Education for Adolescents & Children (RE.A.CH)	Social Ministries Stacey & Morgan Espe 760-224-2699
Debbie Fredette 760-758-4100 x110	Blood Drive Stacey & Morgan Espe 760-224-2699
Liturgy of the Word for Children Heidi Madden 760-529-2400	Brother Benno's CollectionDcn. Tom Goeltz 760-727-8442
Sacramental PreparationDebbie Fredette 760-758-4100 x110	Brother Benno's Kitchen ServerGeorge Jones 760-940-9288
RCIA	Christmas Angel Ministry Kevin & Lisa Seufert 760-732-5965
Moms & KidsJen Abelson 410-570-6962	CPR/AED Classes
Lia Haubert 949-322-6458	Culture of Life
Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs Regina Aulisio 760-295-5530	Jail Ministry
Youth Ministry Matt Franklin 760-758-4100 x161	Mental Health Ministry
High School	Referrals: Deacon John Fredette 760-758-4100 x104
Young Adults	Prayer Request LinePat Wong 760-806-1310
Religious Education for Adults Debbie Fredette 760-758-4100 x110	Norma Flanagan 760-630-0180
Bible Study	Project Linus
Men's Fellowship	Social Justice Committee Henri Black 760-758-8137
Women's MinistryLia Keane 760-586-8049	Interfaith Center for Worker Justice
Vocations	Joyce Meehan 760-304-0373
LiturgyKathy Arciero 760-231-1022	San Diego Organizing Project (SDOP)
Art & Environment Kathy Arciero 760-231-1022	Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131
Bereavement MinistrySr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131	Solutions for Change
Eucharistic Adoration	St. Bonaventure MissionDcn. Tom Goeltz 760-727-8442
Interior Design TeamPat & Phil Goscienski 760-732-1414	Office Support
Liturgical MinistriesDouglas Lynn 760-758-4100 x140	General Support
Music Ministry	Chair Set-UpLorraine Doering 760-758-4100 x102
Sacristans—Altar Guild	Kitchen ManagerRebecca Eyer 760-758-4100 x100
Sacristans—Altar LinensAnna Meyers 760-727-4998 Marriage & Family Life Jen Frost 858-692-7438	Development Council Committees
Bringing the Celebration HomeJen Frost 858-692-7438	Annual Catholic AppealFlora Fallone 760-758-4100 x100
Diocesan Liaison	New ConstructionBrian Leahey 760-224-1674
Family ServicesRev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100	Parish MembershipValerie Thompson 760-630-1703
Marriage Preparation Rev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100	Planned Giving Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120
Widows & Widowers of North CountyCarol Kope 760-726-0533	Publicity/Public RelationsJane Gladden 760-659-6168
Parish Organizations & Events Lisa & Pat Attardo 760-940-1505	Scrip Sales
Annual Gala	Andrea Sweeney 760-216-6389 Stewardship
Historian/Archives Brandon Oswald 760-845-5450	Vehicle Donations
Knights of ColumbusJohn Murphy 760-497-6117	Welcome Ministry
Social Activities	
Spirited SemoisJiii & Marilyii Day 700-309-4343	
	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
	760-758-4100 x132
	760-758-4100 x100 thomasg@stmoside.org
	760-758-4100 x131 maureenb@stmoside.org
	760-758-4100 x104
	760-758-4100 x110
	760-758-4100 x101 staceyg@stmoside.org
	760-758-4100 x140
	760-758-4100 x100
	760-758-4100 x100
	760-758-4100 x120
	760-758-4100 x151
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 x100rebeccae@stmoside.org
Brian Leahey, Director of Construction	760-758-4100 x152 brianl@stmoside.org
	

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Participation in the Annual Catholic Appeal accomplishes something simple but profound: it opens the door of faith for others and for yourself. Because of your gift, someone will meet Jesus Christ, have the opportunity to experience His loving grace, know His Mercy, and rest in His peace.

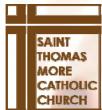
Please make a pleage today!

There are many ways to respond to the Annual Catholic Appeal:



- · a monthly or quarterly pledge
- · a one-time cash gift
- a credit card or electronic funds transfer, which may now be processed by the Diocese, or you may visit www.sdcatholic.org
- · a gift of stocks and bonds

Note that the Annual Catholic Appeal qualifies for many company matching gift programs.











Celebrating



Celebrating THE YEAR OF VICEO VICEO

LUKE 6:36

Our Assessment: \$50,000 Pledges/Gifts to Date: \$30,442

If you have already responded, THANK YOU!

If not, can you help? EVERY gift counts!

2016 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO



St. Thomas More Spirited Seniors Sponsor A Trip to Old Town San Diego and beyond

Thursday May 19 | 9:15am-5:30pm \$5.50 for age 60+, \$11.00 for under age 60

Place: Oceanside Transit Center
Oceanside Coaster Station

235 S. Tremont St Oceanside CA 92054



The Spirited Seniors invite members and their guests to tour Old Town in San Diego, and more, if you are adventurous. We will meet at the Oceanside Coaster Station and depart on the 9:42am Coaster, and arrive at the Old Town Coaster Station at 10:34am. Once there, you may take a self-guided tour of the historic Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, enjoy shopping and lunch on your own in one of the many restaurants in the area. We will board our RETURN COASTER TO OCEANSIDE at the Old Town Coaster Station at 2:22pm, 3:51pm, or 4:33pm. The cost of this trip is \$5.50, the price of the round-trip Coaster, for people age 60+. If under age 60, the cost is \$11.00.

Those wishing to tour more of San Diego on the famous Old Town Trolley must pre-register for a free "Hometown Pass" with the Old Town Trolley Company at www.trolleytours.com/san-diego/hometown-pass-san-diego.asp. This free Pass allows you to accompany, for free, a person who purchases a \$39.00 full-price Trolley ticket. So, find a "friend," share the savings, and the Trolley costs each of you \$19.50! Once on the Trolley, you can enjoy the free narrated 2-hour tour without getting off, or you may "hop-off hop-on" at any of the 11 stops, which include Old Town, the Midway, Seaport Village, Gaslamp Quarter, Coronado, Balboa Park, the San Diego Zoo and more.

Please complete the reservation form with your check payable to "St. Thomas More Spirited Seniors."

Place it in an envelope marked "Spirited Seniors Old Town Trip"

and return it to the offertory collection or the Parish Office, Box 12, by Monday May 16.

For more information, including how to secure a free "Hometown Pass," contact Jim and Marilyn Day at 760-509-4545 or jandmday@cox.net



The Spirited Sepiers Old Town Trip

The Church of St. Thomas More does not own or operate any of the suppliers of services or accommodations for your trip. In addition, St. Thomas More is not a registered provider of travel services in the State of California ant takes no responsibility.

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The Spirited Semons Old Town Trip	Thursday, May 19 Reserv	ration forms due by May 10
Your Name(s):	Telephone:	Today's Date:
Guest Name(s):	I/We are already members of Spirited SeniorsI/We would like to join the Spirited Seniors Enclosed is \$ for memberships at \$10 each	
Your Email:	x \$ 5.50 for age 60+ = 5	Total enclosed:



Woods Valley Kampground
Valley Center

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

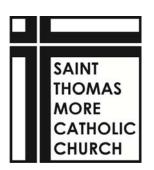
\$66 per site For the weekend

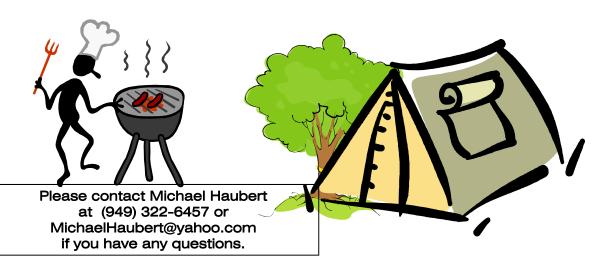
We'll take reservations until May 8

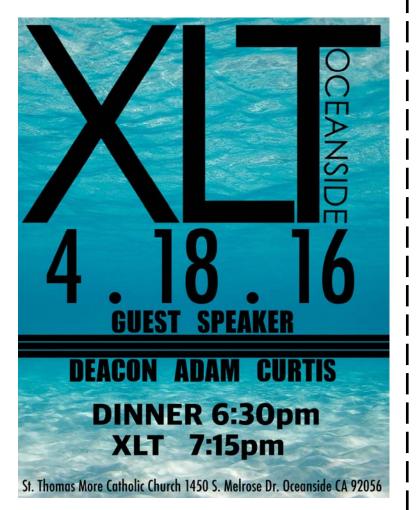
- We have a wonderfully shady area with 32 sites located near the pond. Water and electric hookups at the sites and flush toilets and showers are available in the campground.
- There is a pond for the kids to fish in. Near the pond is a play area.
 Of course the pool is there for swimming. A hay ride is provided on Saturday evenings.
- On Saturday, we can walk to Bates Nut Farm, about 1 mile up the road. There are animals to feed and great gift, fruit and nut shops.
- Saturday afternoon @4:00 we will celebrate Mass at the campsite.
- After Mass we will provide the barbeque where everyone can grill their own meat. We'll have a side dish, salad and dessert potluck.
- Campfires in the evenings, of course!

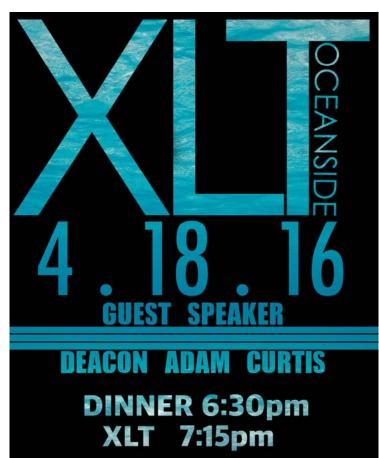












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