

Holy Year Pilgrimage Mercy Door and Eucharistic Adoration 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

Sunday-Saturday, 7:00am-7:00pm

Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturday, 3:30-4:30pm and by appointment

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





Visit
www.orchidsandonions.org
to VOTE for STM!
See page 2 for more
information.

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time September 11, 2016

Pastor's Column

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

Embracing the Joy of Love

On Sunday, September 4, a Listening Session was held in our Parish to help us, as a Parish, prepare for our Diocesan Synod, "Embracing the Joy of Love," to be held on October 29-30. This Synod will be discussing Pope Francis' Apostolic Teaching, *The Joy of Love*, and finding ways to implement it in our Diocese.

Our Parishioner, Sheila McKinley, will be representing our Parish at the Synod in October. See the flyer in today's bulletin for her remarks from the "Listening Session" in which she talks about Pope Francis, his Teaching, The Joy of Love, and thoughts about her extended family (which in all candor sounds like my family and most of our families!)

That is why the *The Joy of Love* is and should be a comfort to all of us!

Please see the flyer in today's bulletin for the rest of the Pastor's Column.

TREASURES 2016—CAN YOU HELP?

Mark your calendars for Treasures 2016 on Saturday, October 1. We need volunteers to solicit donations from nurseries by telephone. We need volunteers for the Treasures Committee as well. As always we will need plenty of volunteers for the day of the sale.



To sign up or for any questions, please contact John Murphy at 760-497-6117 or wmurphy8801@aol.com or visit stmoside.org.

Did You Know?

The computer network is the heart of the Parish Office and the ministry of our Parish Staff. The computer network must be maintained and updated on a regular basis. The cost for new equipment and regular maintenance was \$9,302.35 for FYE 2016. We have budgeted \$9,350.00 for FYE 2017. Your gift to the "Did You Know?" Campaign helps us to balance our Operations Budget!

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.

Jail/Detention Ministry

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

Orchids & Onions Update

Thanks to everyone who posted comments about our nomination for an architectural Orchid award for our new church. We made the finals! The team of judges visited at the end of August. In addition to the judges' decision, people can vote too. You can cast your vote for STM by visiting *orchidsandonions.org* before September 15. Then visit http://tinyurl.com/hq445e5 for a great article and video from the Union Tribune about the process.

STM \$crip News

Do you shop on Amazon? Use Amazon Smile and raise money for STM while you shop! Click the link at www.stmoside.org/scrip.htm to get started.

Need back-to-school supplies? Get Scrip gift cards for Staples, Target, Wal*Mart, and more and help STM while you shop!

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."

We encourage every STM family to donate one nonperishable food item each weekend when they come to Mass.

Together we can help feed the hungry in our local community.



Welcome New Parishioners

Douglas Diem
Joseph & Catalina Francolino
Sean & Jane Morse & Family
Jordan Reece & Alyssa Russell & Family

Announcing the Baptisms of

Elizabeth Lee Bussen Catherine Marie Bussen Emilie Vilela Winn Madeline An Tran



on September 11

Our Christian community welcomes you with great joy!

Flower Donations

The Altar Flowers for this weekend were given by **The Dragula Family** in memory of Al.



In Memoriam



Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Mike Bracci, who died on May 16. Please keep his mother, Parishioner Josephine Bracci, and his family in your prayers.

Geraldine Barton, who died on August 23. A Memorial Mass will be celebrated on Friday, September 23, at 11:00am at St. Thomas More. Please keep her family in your prayers.

Bill Haynes, who died on August 26. His Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, September 22, at 11:00am at St. Thomas More. Please keep his wife, Mary, and his family in your prayers.

Peggy Chambers, who died on September 2. Funeral arrangements are pending. Please keep her family in your prayers.

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

Local Hospitals with Catholic Chaplains Available

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

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

Readings for the Week Ahead

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

Sunday, September 11 (132) Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Exodus 32:7-11,13-14 Psalm 51:3-4,12-13,17,19 1 Timothy 1-12-17 Luke 15:1-32

Monday, September 12 (443) The Most Holy Name of Mary 1 Corinthians 11:17-26,33 Psalm 40:7-10,17 Luke 7:1-10

Tuesday, September 13 (637) John Chrysostom, bishop, doctor Ephesians 4:1-7,11-13 Psalm 40:2,4,7-11

Mark 4:1-10,13-20

Wednesday, September 14 (638) The Exaltation of the Holy Cross Numbers 21:4b-9 Philippians 2:6-11

Psalm 78:1bc-2,34-38 John 3:13-17 **Thursday, September 15** (639) Our Lady of Sorrows Hebrews 5:7-9

Psalm 31:2,3b-6,15-16,20 John 19:25-27 or Luke 2:33-35

Friday, September 16 (640) Cornelius, pope; Cyprian, bishop; martyrs

2 Corinthians 4:7-15 Psalm 126:1bc-2ab- 6

John 17:11b-19 Saturday, September 17 (448) Robert Bellarmine, bishop, doctor 1 Corinthians 15:35-37,42-49

Psalm 56:10c-14 Luke 8:4-15

Sunday, September 18 (135) Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Amos 8:4-7 Psalm 113:1-2,4-8 1 Timothy 2:1-8 Luke 16:1-13

Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 10, 5:00pm Philip & Jeff Lavelle &

Sunday, September 11, 8:30am Lelan Wong 🕆

Sunday, September 11, 10:30am Cesarina Morelli

Monday, September 12, 8:15am Willard Dowling &

Tuesday, September 13, 8:15am Bill Draper T

Wednesday, September 14, 8:15am Mary Fallon &

Thursday, September 15, 8:15am Paul West

Friday, September 16, 8:15am Johnny Brouissard &

Saturday, September 17, 5:00pm Dolly Cole 1

Sunday, September 18, 8:30am Scott Loftis

Sunday, September 18, 10:30am Peggy Marsh 🕏

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

Changa Aguilera
Ernie Aichele
Mary Alexander
Christine & Cory Anderson
The Antone Family
Carrie Autrey
Joshua Avery
Addison Abigail Aviña
Bob Baker
Rosemary Ballard
The Bannelos & Garcia Families
Jose Luis Barbosa
Francie Barron
The Barton Family
Clarice Bednarz
Joyce Belanger
Taylor Bell
John Bennici
Regina Bentz
Lisa Berg
Goseanne Berg
Mary Betz
Betty Jean Bielich
Pieter Boets & Family
The Bracci Family
Zane Breier
Beth Brewer
Michael Brice
Janet Brown
Katie Browne
Bob Brownell
Anta Buerger
Shelby Campbell
Brianne Campos
Aria Cappeluti
Nanette Carey
Jorge Cartajena
Donald Cashmore
Anne Caywood
The Chambers Family
The Vaughn Clevenger Family
Anne Cline
Carl & Dorothy Coleman
James Coleman
Maria Colfer
Addie Colgan
Judy Colson
Karen Connell
Geoff Coolidge
William Costanza
Sandra Cracchiolo
Steven Cresencia
Lené Crowe
Karen Flaharty Daley
Beyerly de Gelder
Velia Deal & Family
The Deal & Family
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
Jerome Elbacha
Arthur Eral
Carolyn Erickson Ey
Victoria Lopez Fenton
The Fiore Family
Fr. James Flanagan
Mary Fleming
Ryan Flum
Erine Follis
Eugene Franciscus
The Greg French Family
Her Firmmer Family
Brian Frink
Dioni Gabriel
Jim Gallagher
The Joe Garcia Family
Kathy Gardner
Joan Gay
Alyssa Gerhard
Merle Glime
Dcn. Jim Gollhofer
Wendy Gonzales' Dad
Rick Gonzalez
The Gorge Gritt
Luke Guenst
Tomo Hamasai
Colle Harrison & Family
Brian Frink
Dioni Gabriel
Jim Gallagher
The Joe Garcia Family
Dorothy Harrison
Michelle Harrison & Family
Brian Frink
Dioni Gabriel
Jim Gallagher
The Joe Garcia Family
Lanay Hazzard
Lilian Hills
Lisa (Lynn) Hodges
George Gritt
Luke Guenst
Tomo Hamasai
The Hannon Family
The Hannon Family
The Hannon Family
The Hannon Family
The Harker Family
Dorothy Harrison
Michelle Harrison & Family
Barbara Hatem
The Hannon Family
The Harne Jacobs
The Janaely
The

Bernie Klimek
Mark Kneisel
Dewey Kolbo
Tony Korwin
Don Kowallek
Faith Kowallek
Helen Kunh
Jorene Kundert
Lillian Lachance
The Lamelin Family
Pauline Lapre's sisfer Justine
Brandon LeBlanc
Susan Lee
Jake Lefferdink
Jeremiah Lemus
Aleah Leon
Ashley Load
Aleah Leon
Ashley Load
Aleah Leon
Ashley Load
Jack Lucarelli
Fvadna Lynn
Joaquin Maldonado Family
The Maldonado Family
The Madonado Trejo Family
Paige Mansell
Gloria Maupin
Colleen McCall
Virginia McConnell
Paige McCoy
Jerry McEniry
The McGinley Family
Ann McMahan
Bob McWilliams
Kalei Mendiola
Rita Mikridee
Barbara S. Miller
Tonn Miller
Ton

Calendar Highlights

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

Liturgy of the Word for Sep 11 Children at 8:30am and 10:30am Masses Wine Tasting 101 Event Sep 11 Sep 12 Women's Guild SRO Event 11:00am Relationship Skills Workshop 7:00pm Aging with Grace Sep 13 Sep 17 Conference Sep 17 Mental Health Conference Sep 17-18 Brother Benno's Toiletries Drive Sep 18 Liturgy of the Word for Children at 8:30am Mass Women's Ministry Prayer Sep 24 Breakfast Sep 25 New Member Luncheon Treasures Rummage Sale Oct 1 Oct 7-9 Annual Men's Retreat Oct 23 Oktober Fest Event Nov 5-6 St. Bonaventure Clothing Christmas Cookie Exchange Dec 17

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 1st Lt. Eric Galamay MSGT Steve Gallegos, USMC Sgt. Alex Garcia Adolfo Granados, MD, U.S. Navy PFC Samuel Haro, US Army Cpl Caleb Lemons, USMC PFC Cody Madere Jordan Millikan 1st Lt. Jennifer Mozzetta Jeremiah Gabriel Nelson, USAF Thomas Kevin Nelson, US Navy Fireman Griffin Joseph Ochoa, US Navy Pvt. 2 Jess Phillips, US Army Nicole Rieger, US Navy Sr. Airman Robert Spear, USAF Sgt. Charles Watts, USMC

Pray for Women Religious

Please join us in praying for the women religious who serve in the Diocese of San Diego. They have been assigned to days of the year in alphabetical order.

*
September 12 Sr. Maria Eucharistia Brandt, MC
September 13 Sr. Rose Marie Brausam, OSF
September 14 Sr. Gemma Gabriela Briseno, SJS
September 15 Sr. Maureen Evelyn Brown, CSJ
September 16 Sr. Angela Cardozo Rebollar, CSC
September 17 Sr. Mary Lou Carlson, OSF
September 18 Sr. Carmelita Carrillo, MC

Social Ministries & Outreach

Brother Benno's Toiletry Drive

Our once-a-year toiletry and disposable diaper drive is just around the corner; September 17/-18. What we take for granted is a luxury to those in need. The toiletries are used for hygiene packs for the homeless, showers, etc., at the Brother Benno Center; used at one of their rehab houses; and to help the poor stretch their meager income. Disposable diapers are always in need and go almost as fast as they come in...and are expensive, especially for those who have little or no income. Please be generous. Look for Deacon Tom and his truck before all Masses that weekend and may God bless you for your kindness.

St. Bonaventure Indian Mission

Now that the new school year is starting, with new shoes and clothes, don't throw the summer clothes out...save them for our annual clothing drive to help the Navajo served by St. Bonaventure Indian Mission. Men's, women's, and children's clothing; summer, winter, or fall...together with serviceable shoes and boots are desperately needed by some of the poorest of the poor of our country. We will be collecting the first weekend in November. 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 and has made a commitment to become a faith community that both understands mental illness and can provide compassionate support. 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 San Diego diocese is offering a free conference entitled: *Faith in Healing* on Saturday, September 17, 8:30am-12:30pm at St. Michael Catholic Church, Poway. It is for anyone interested in or dealing with mental health issues. Register by September 14 or get more information at *www.SocialMinistrySanDiego.com*.

Aging with Grace

Saturday, September 17, 8:30am Registration, 9:00am-2:00pm Presentations (Parish Center Lower Level)

Dr. Susan Writer, from Aurora Behavioral Health, and Dr. Sharon Hamill, from the Institute for Palliative Care at California State University San Marcos, will discuss aging well, quality of life with a chronic illness, caregiving, self-advocacy tips, and tools to help maintain independence. All are welcome!

To register: www.tinyurl.com/AWGsept or 760-750-3550. Questions? Contact Sr. Maureen at 760-758-4100 x131.

Our Church—Do You Know?

Outdoor speakers are now functioning on the plaza and in the area near the main restrooms to the west of the main doors. Additional restrooms are on the northeast corner behind the choir area.

An AED is located on the west side of the Reconciliation Room.

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 have park play dates on the first and third Monday of each



month at a local park, and there are many other events throughout the month posted on our private Facebook page. Join us! Contact Natalia Sada at *vzlanaty@yahoo.com* or Estelle Eral at *estelle.eral@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.

Struggling to conceive but nothing is happening? Or doctors tell you IVF is your only hope? Want to space children naturally and effectively? Come listen to a free Introductory Presentation of the Creighton Model FertilityCare system. Every third Thursday of the month. Next presentation: Thursday, September 15, 7:00pm, St. Thomas More, Parish Center Lower Level. Please RSVP with Beth at 619-630-8086 or beth@veritasfertilitycare.com.

Relationship Skills Workshops—Deacon John and Debbie Fredette will be presenting Relationship Skills Workshops every Tuesday evening, 7:00-8:30pm, at St. Thomas More in the Parish Center Lower Level, September 13-January 17. Come and explore how to improve your relationship! You can attend one workshop, several, or all of them. The topic for September 13 is *Building a Climate of Respect*. There is no pre-registration or fee. For more information call Deacon John at 760-758-4100 x104

Bishops' Letter on Marriage—God's Love, Our Love: "God established marriage so that man and woman could participate in his love and thus selflessly give themselves to each other in love. A man and a woman who by their act of consent are no longer two but one flesh (see Mt 19:6ff.) render mutual help and service to each other through an intimate union of their persons and of their actions." To read the document go to http://www.usccb.org/loveandlife/.

Marriage Moments— September 11, 2001, took most people by surprise. You don't know the time or the place you or your beloved will die. Take advantage of the time you have today to show your love. By Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net.

Parenting Pointers— "I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky" (Exodus 32:13). No matter the number of children you have, each one is a promise for the future. Do something to make the world better for your offspring today. (recycle, donate to a cause, make peace with someone.). 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.

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

For those of you who still need to renew your membership, or join us as a new member, the opportunity awaits you at the September 12 Women's Guild meeting with spectacular entertainment provided by *Standing Room Only* to open our new year. If you have a paid reservation for this exciting event, please stop by the Membership table and complete a form and submit it with your \$10 dues for the year.

If you will be attending the Wine Tasting 101 Event this Sunday afternoon, be sure to stop by the Women's Guild table displayed with wine-themed items handmade by our talented members that will be for sale. Think holiday gifts for your favorite people, and best of all, the proceeds go straight to the Women's Guild treasury! Many thanks to the coordinators of this event, Lisa and Patrick Attardo, for inviting us to participate in this way.

Stay tuned for next week's bulletin column report on our long awaited program, *Standing Room Only*! May the joy of Mother Teresa's long awaited canonization be with you and may her selfless deeds inspire us all to practice mercy always.

—Kathy Gerhard, president

Men's Fellowship Update

iHunger starts up again Saturday, September 10 at 6:45am in the lower level...breakfast is provided. Hope to see you there!

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 84576.

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 84576.

Our Annual men's retreat: A Retreat for the Everyday Guy, featuring men from our Parish along with Immaculate Heart Radio talk show host Cy Kellett, will take place at Green Oaks Ranch in Vista on October 7-9. Registration is going on now, please contact Deacon John at 760-758-4100 x104 for more details or go to www.stmoside.org/men to download your registration form

Help Needed for the Victims of the California Wild Fires and the Louisiana Floods

You may use the envelope from last week's bulletin any time this month to make a contribution to the victims of the California Wild Fires and the Louisiana Floods. Please make your checks out to Catholic Charities, indicate if you would like your donation directed to the California Wild Fire victims or the Louisiana Flood Victims, and the money will directed to the proper source.

Also, there is an immediate need for camp stoves, barbeques to cook food, camp pots and pans, eyeglasses, hearing aids, wheel chairs, blankets, towels, and animal food and animal medications. These contributions will be directed to our friends here in California.

These items can be dropped off at the Parish Office and our Parishioner, Bob Wojcik, will deliver them to those in need.

Thank You! -Fr. Mike



The Gala Committee will be giving the Parish more money in the coming months from our ongoing "Year of Celebration" events, which are listed below. We invite you to join us!! This is a very fun way to continue doing God's work.

Oktober Fest

Sunday, October 23, 2:00-6:00pm \$75/per person (\$25 tax deductible)

Christmas Cookie Exchange

Saturday, December 17, 10:00am-12:00noon \$20/per person (\$10 tax deductible)

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

Pictorial Directory Update

Thank you to all who had your photos taken!

For those of you who have the complimentary 8x10 photo to pick up, you can come to the Parish Office during business hours (8:30am-4:00pm, Monday-Friday), or pick it up at the information table on the plaza after all weekend Masses.

*Please note that if you did not have your photo taken at STM during our photo sessions in June, July, and August, OR at another Lifetouch photo location but submitted a photo, there will be a \$10 charge for processing and for the photo directory.

Kim Wright, 760-518-8465, kimw@stmoside.org

New Member Reception September 25

We are inviting all new Parishioners who have joined us since last March to a new member reception and luncheon on Sunday, September 25, after the 10:30am Mass in the Parish Center Lower Level. Invitations have been mailed, and we look forward to meeting you. If you were unable to attend the last reception, please know that you are welcome to attend this one.

Please RSVP as soon as possible to let us know whether or not you will attend by contacting 760-758-4100 x154 or parishoffice@stmoside.org no later than September 19 so that we may adequately prepare as your hosts. For further information, contact Valerie Thompson at 760-630-1703 or valgene2@cox.net.

Catholic Widows and Widowers of North County

On the fourth Sunday of each month we meet for a Communal Mass at various Catholic churches in North County. Check *www.cwwnc.com* or the bulletin board in the Parish Center Lower Level for our calendar of events including theatre, bowling, bocce ball, dining out, hiking, and more! RSVPs are required. For more information, call Carol Kope 760-726-0533.

Liturgy & Music Worship God

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

MERCY IN MOTION

scripture themes for September

by Patricia Datchuck Sánchez and Rafael Sánchez Alonso, from Celebration September 2016, with permission. When Pope Francis inaugurated the Year of Mercy Jubilee December 8, 2015, he prayed to Jesus, "You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God whose power is manifested above all in forgiveness and mercy. Let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified ... let everyone who approaches your ministers feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God. ... May your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind" (Year of Mercy Prayer). As a sign of the church's merciful outreach to all of God's people, the Holy Father called for the doors of all churches to be opened so that anyone who enters will experience the love of God, who consoles, pardons, and instills hope (Misericordiae Vultus #3). Pope Francis also called upon believers to open the doors of their hearts to all others and to live out the mercy of God in their daily lives. This month, sacred texts affirm importance of mercy as an attribute of God that is to be emulated by God's own.

Be merciful as God is merciful; this directive, while not specifically enunciated, can be heard echoing between the lines of several of the texts. In Paul's Letter to Philemon (Sep 4), he pleaded with Philemon, who owned the runaway slave Onesimus and had the right to deal with him in any way he wished, to treat him no longer as a slave but to receive him and value him as a brother. Roman justice would have permitted Philemonto exact the ultimate punishment and demand that Onesimus die for his actions. But, by virtue of his faith and belonging to God, Philemon was called to move beyond Roman

justice and treat Onesimus with mercy.

Mercy is also featured in the sacred texts for September 11. There, the authors of Exodus recount the anachronized incident of the molten calf the Israelites worshiped as a god. Through the intercession of Moses. God relented of the punishment that was due such an act of idolatry and behaved mercifully toward the people. God's mercy and compassion is also borne out in the Lucan Gospel for that day, where the father of the prodigal son went beyond logic and the law to show mercy where mercy was not expected or deserved. Without anger or castigation, and filled only with compassion and mercy, the wronged father forgave his son and called for great rejoicing because the lost had been found; he who was once dead in sin had come to life again.

Amos will speak the truth in a harsh voice on September 18 and 25, warning his contemporaries that God will never forget their abuse and neglect of the poor and needy. Those who have no mercy for God's least ones, God's predilect, shall be the first to go into exile, promised Amos. The eighth-century B.C.E. prophet was among the first of the prophets to champion the plight of the poor and to decry the selfishness of the rich as an affront not only to the poor but to God. For that reason, Amos, the shepherd and dresser of sycamore trees, was willing to roar (his word) for the sake of mercy. He did not regard mercy as pity or as an act of charity bestowed upon another. On the contrary, Amos regarded mercy as a matter of social justice. By virtue of their shared faith in God, the Israelites were bound to love one another as sisters and brothers. That bond made them responsible for one another, and



What man among you having a hundred sheep and losing one of them would not leave the ninetynine in the desert and go after the lost one until he finds it?

Luke 15:4

that responsibility included compassionate and merciful care for one another's needs, especially the voiceless, the disadvantaged, and the helpless. Amos' words continue to beg a hearing in every human heart where mercy is wanting or forgotten.

On September 25, the Lucan Jesus presents a lesson on mercy in a parable featuring a rich man and a poor man named Lazarus. While the wealthy man dined "sumptuously" (Luke's word) every day, poor, sick Lazarus went hungry, his needs tended only by dogs who licked his sores. By telling of what happened to each man after they died, the parable affirms the eternal and immutable repercussions of the good that we do or fail to do on this side of the grave. The rich man showed no mercy to the poor man lying at his door, and he was shown no mercy. Lazarus, who had known no mercy, would spend eternity in the bosom of Abraham, i.e., in peace, comfort, and security. By the world's standards, most of us are rich in comparison to the millions of Lazaruses out there, some as near as our doorstep. Their need calls upon us to be sensitive to their plight and willing to put mercy in motion.

Upcoming Music

X

SEPTEMBER 18 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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5:00pm

Tower Bells

8:30am

Sanctuary Choir

10:30am

Praise Team

Faith Formation

Teach and Live the Gospel Matt Franklin Youth Advocate 760-758-4100 x161: mattf@stmoside.org

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

Family Faith Formation

Have You Registered Your Child for **Faith Formation?**

Contact Debbie in Faith Formation Office Today!



First Parent Meeting for R/E Sacrament Preparation will be September 18, 12:30-2:00pm Contact the Faith Formation Office for More Information



The "Surfer Priest" Is Coming to St. Thomas More!

This Is a Free Family Event Open to All Ages!



Author of Under the Mantle, No Turning Back: A Witness to Mercy, and Champions of the Rosary

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Kick-Off September 14 6:30-8:30pm

Stewardship & Development Serve God's People

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

Collection for Week of September 3/4, 2016 Number of Registered Households 1,232 Offertory \$17,379.61 \$1,137.00

Offertory (Loose Collection) Total \$18,516.61

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

Mortgage Offering Collected	\$1,069,782.85
Less Administrative Costs	\$45,826.00
Payment toward Parish Reserves (10%)	\$105,848.29
Payment toward Mortgage	\$952,634.56
Mortgage Payment Due	\$1,046,206.83
Mortgage Payment Overage/(Shortfall)	(\$93,572.27)

Memorial Items \$1,690,910.90

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

"Did You Know" Collection August 2016 \$8,321.20

Restaurant Fundraisers August 2016

Oggi's	\$429.00
BJ's	\$85.97

Do at least two people know the location of your Living Trust and/or Will and Health Directive?

TOWERS OF FAITH

Future Support & Legacy Planning Options

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

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



Examples of the various future planning vehicles are: Designated Beneficiary Accounts, Last Will and Testament, Living Trust, Life Insurance, Stocks and Bonds, Real Estate, and Endowments.

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

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

A Christian Stewardship Prayer for September



Loving Father,

A world made in your image and likeness is desperate for your healing touch.

It is a place where people do not have enough water, or enough food, or enough medicine even though there is enough of these things in the world.

It is a realm where people hunger for freedom and are tortured and killed for this yearning.

It is a world where there is much anger and hatred, distrust and little peace.

We ourselves tend to avoid those we don't know, those who don't look like us, or think like us, or worship like us.

And yet you call to us to be good stewards of our neighbors; to love them as we love ourselves; to love them with greater hearts than we can imagine.

Give us the courage we need to be better stewards of our neighbors; and to believe what you tell us, that you will give us everything we need to love in your name, so your healing may truly be made manifest in this world.

> We pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

—ICSC Stewardship e-bulletin, September 2016 (with permission)

During the month of August, I took two separate family vacations in two different places. These were vacations needed not only for special family time, but for resting and rejuvenating my mind as well. With my batteries recharged, September is already promising to be a very productive time. As fall is nearly upon us, my prayer is for all of us at STM to move forward with love, enthusiasm and insight into what God is calling us to do and be. Only then will we be able to call ourselves God's good and faithful servants! Peace and all good, Chris

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) 12 available	\$5,000/each
Priests' Concelebration Vestments (4) 4 available	\$400/each
Pew Seating for the Church (1,000) 707 available	\$300/each
Daily Mass Chapel and Choir Chairs (200) 93 available	\$300/each
Altar Server Albs (15) 8 available	\$125/each
	06/15/16

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*

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

The Larger Church News

The Glory of the Lord Shines Upon You: Epiphanies in LGBT Lives—January 6-8, 2017; Non-silent Retreat for Women and Men at The Jesuit Retreat Center of Los Altos, California; Fr. Michael Zampelli, SJ; Dr. Sheila Nelson; and, Mr. Gregory Dale Schultz. A weekend retreat for the LGBT community to relax and reflect on the mysteries of Incarnation and Epiphany... How does God take flesh in our lives? How does God's glory shine upon us? How are we being called to become "a light for the nations?" The weekend will include ample opportunity for private, silent prayer, communal prayer, and group faith sharing. Information Contact: reservations@jrclosaltos.org.

Cathedral Catholic High School Information Presentation—Tuesday, September 13, 6:30-7:30pm, at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, Carlsbad. Topics include admissions, academics, athletics, college planning and Q&A. To RSVP, visit www.cathedralcatholic.org, Admissions.

After-Abortion Healing Retreat for Catholic Women (or Catholic-friendly)—September 16-18, given by Rachel's Hope at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 3888 Paducah Dr., San Diego. For information/registration, contact Rosemary at 858-581-3022 or Rachels_Hope@juno.com or visit www.RachelsHope.org

Marriage Help—The word *Retrouvaille* (pronounced re-tro-vi with a long i) is a French word meaning rediscovery. The program offers tools needed to rediscover a loving marriage relationship. Thousands of couples headed for cold, unloving relationships or divorce have successfully overcome their marriage problems by attending the program. Next program is September 16-18. Space is limited; call 951-259-9474 for information.

Academy of Our Lady of Peace High School for Young Women Open House—Saturday, October 8, 9:00-11:30am. Campus tours and presentations. Register online at *www.aolp.org*.

Father/Son and Mother/Daughter Chastity Luncheon

Young Adult Opportunities around the Diocese

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

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

Catholic Radio—AM 1000/Sirius 130—San Diego

Visit ihradio.com/sandiego

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Parish Contacts

Updated 08/15/2016

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Pastoral Council Committees	Spirited Seniors
Religious Education/Faith Formation/Evangelization	Treasures Rummage SaleJohn & Wendy Murphy 760-497-6117
Rory Griffin 760-414-3939	Walking Ministry
Religious Education for Adolescents & Children (RE.A.CH)	Social Ministries Stacey & Morgan Espe 760-224-2699
	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
RCIAKathleen Bell 760-809-6526	Christmas Angel Ministry Kevin & Lisa Seufert 760-732-5965
Moms & KidsLia Haubert 760-758-4100 x100	CPR/AED Classes
	Culture of LifeJane Kelleher 760-822-7041
Estelle Eral 760-758-4100 x100	Disability Facilitation
Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs Regina Aulisio 760-295-5530	Jail MinistryRita McCarthy 760-758-4100 x100
Youth Ministry Matt Franklin 760-758-4100 x161	Mental Health Ministry
High School	
Young Adults	Prayer Request LinePat Wong 760-806-1310
Religious Education for AdultsDebbie Fredette 760-758-4100 x110	Lee Coccaro 760-598-6248
Bible Study	Project Linus
Centering Prayer	Social Justice Committee
Men's Fellowship	Interfaith Center for Worker Justice
Women's MinistryLia Keane 760-586-8049	
Vocations	San Diego Organizing Project (SDOP)
Liturgy	Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131
Art & Environment	Solutions for Change Kevin & Lyn Leahy 760-643-0872
Eucharistic Adoration	Family Shoe Ministry Rick & Heidi Madden 760-470-4998
	St. Bonaventure Mission
Interior Design Team	Office Support Henny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100
Music Ministry	General SupportHenny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100
Sacristans—Altar Guild	Kitchen ManagerRebecca Eyer 760-758-4100 x100
Sacristans—Altar LinensAnna Meyers 760-727-4998	Development Council Committees
Marriage & Family Life Jen Frost 858-692-7438	Annual Catholic AppealLorraine Doering 760-758-4100 x102
Bringing the Celebration HomeJen Frost 858-692-7438	New ConstructionBrian Leahey 760-224-1674
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Marriage Preparation Rev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100	Publicity/Public RelationsJane Gladden 760-659-6168
Widows & Widowers of North CountyCarol Kope 760-726-0533	Scrip SalesMike Nichols 760-727-7522
Parish Organizations & EventsPatrick Attardo 760-940-1505	
Annual Gala	Stewardship
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Knights of ColumbusJohn Murphy 760-497-6117	Welcome Ministry Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120
Social ActivitiesHenny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100	
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Dcn. John Fredette	760-758-4100 x132
Dcn. Tom Goeltz	760-758-4100 x100 thomasg@stmoside.org
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Dcn. John Fredette, Business Manager	
Debbie Fredette, Director of Faith Formation	
Matt Franklin, Youth Advocate	
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Lia Keane, Director of Ark Nursery	
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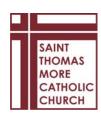
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Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time September 11, 2016

Pastor's Column

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



Embracing the Joy of Love

On Sunday, September 4, a Listening Session was held in our Parish to help us, as a Parish, prepare for our Diocesan Synod, "Embracing the Joy of Love," to be held on October 29/30. This Synod will be discussing Pope Francis' Apostolic Teaching, "The Joy of Love," and finding ways to implement it in our Diocese.

Our Parishioner, Sheila McKinley, will be representing our Parish at the Synod in October. Below are her remarks from the "Listening Session" in which she talks about Pope Francis, his Teaching, "The Joy of Love," and thoughts about her extended family (which in all candor sounds like my family and most of our

sounds like my family and most of our families!

That is why the "The Joy of Love" is and should be a comfort to all of us!

Thank you Fr. Mike for giving me the opportunity to represent STM and thank you all for being here today... For those of you who haven't read "The Joy of Love," make it your next

book club book, it's incredibly easy to read! Pope Francis is the man of the people. He understands this era and the use of technology for that matter. I think I read somewhere that he used the phrase "surfing on your mobile phone" and he refers to "helicopter parenting" and "getting along

with your in-laws." I marked up so many pages I could have highlighted the entire book. The only difficult part now is how best to summarize so many of the wonderful thoughts he has.

So what I've come to gather from this book is that through the two Vatican Synods that were held in the last two years he wrote this to find out how WE as a church can better serve, better support, families, married couples, and single people. He wants OUR feedback! I truly believe that he also is saying, look I know that the Gospel is hard to follow, Canon Law is way up here; and where we all are, down in this world, it can look and be very messy. And that's okay. And I hear him say over and over again to have mercy; and, of course, this is the "Jubilee Year of Mercy" so hopefully it's becoming engrained in all of us! He wants the Church to be supportive and non-judgmental. On this feast of St. Mother Theresa's canonization, Fr. Karl quoted her this

morning at Mass saying, "If you judge people, you have no time to love them." Pope Francis says, "All family life is a shepherding in mercy" (p,252). That's pretty powerful. If you can teach your children anything, mercy is an essential virtue. He wants us to love people where they are at in life, get rid of our ego, our pride, whatever it is that's holding us back from being open to love, maybe it's fear. He reaches into the core of the family, understanding that family life is very messy. So again I'm humbled by this invitation and it's truly God's perfect timing that He has called me to do this. So I will give you a little background on who I am and why this experience has truly touched my soul.

As I was growing up my family had always been a positive, loving place other than the fact we certainly had our share of arguments. But I have warm memories of my childhood. To this day my siblings (I am the youngest of four) are my best friends. We all joke about wanting to move back to Indiana, where we are from, since it's so much more affordable with more land to roam, but we don't want to leave each other. So we will just do what we can to handle the cramped space for the sake of family times together. So I thank my parents for keeping us close and instilling the

faith in us. My parents took prayer and Sunday Mass/family time very seriously in our home and I am so grateful that they did and didn't give in to our complaints about Mass, etc... In fact, I had a best friend growing up who was

Lutheran and I had many Saturday night sleep-overs at her house, therefore resulting in attending her church service the next morning. However, my dad would still take me to Mass later that evening.



There is no better gift than prayer and how to pray. Growing up I saw my parents pray together, just the two of them and I was a part of our family prayer time, not just at meals but every now and then when we would say the rosary as a family or circle up for our morning prayer before school. Our family is very close and I know that's the reason why. Whenever times were or are tough we all naturally go back

(Continued on page 2)

to that place of prayer, it's comfortable, it's what we know, it's been engrained in us. Countless times to this day I've prayed novenas with my brother or sisters for intentions we have in our life. My dad, sister, brother, and I all work together at our estate family law practice. We pray for our business and pray for our clients who have died. It's what seems like the right thing to do, to bring prayer with you wherever you go!

My parents were/are the best of friends and that love was in the center of our family. Because of their witness we, their children, have sought out that same type of love in our spouses. We see that it's attainable and good. It's rooted in us and we know that God lies in the heart of it all.

Well... "The Joy of Love" begins with that same call to family, to love, to prayer, to lasting unions... Pope Francis says "The close bond between married life and the Eucharist thus becomes all the more clear. For the food of the Eucharist offers the spouses the strength and incentive needed to live the marriage covenant each day as a domestic church" (p.249). I feel that is exactly why my parents took prayer and Sunday Mass, as a family, so seriously. Chapter 4 gives a beautiful description of love in a marriage as he breaks down 1 Cor 13: love is patient, love is kind...

Now did I have the perfect family...absolutely not. Pope Francis says "no family drops down from heaven perfectly formed; families need constantly to grow and mature in the ability to love" (p,325). With the help of my sister, I have created an alphabet soup of challenges we've had in our family. Not just our nuclear family as Pope Francis refers to it, but to the larger/wider extended family, aunts, uncles, cousins. So here it is starting with A... addictions, ADHD, alcoholism, anxiety that needs meds, arrests, Asperger's, children born out of wedlock, cancer, clinical depression, death of a child, divorce, DUI, drug use, dyslexia, falling out with family members, financial stress, family members who are LGBT, family members who left the Catholic Church, family members who married non-Catholics, infidelity, marriage annulment process (some did/some didn't), and the most recent: suicide.

A few of those I just mentioned have recently been challenges that I have had to face while simultaneously reading this book (thank goodness!!), which is why I truly feel God called me to this to help me be more merciful and to choose to love. I so easily could have held onto bitterness and fear and veered in the wrong direction. But literally I found myself, one day, in a state of un-forgiveness or perhaps a judging heart, and then I read in page 240: "Even if it seems clear that the other person is at fault, a crisis will never be overcome simply by expecting him or her to change. We also have to ask what in our own life needs to grow or heal if the conflict is to be resolved." And then, I

recalled one day feeling concerned over my children and what I would teach them about this conflict and didn't want them to hear what was going on and I started to notice myself, as Pope Francis writes in page 187, "creating small nests of security, where others are perceived as bothersome or a threat. Such isolation, however, cannot offer greater peace or happiness; rather, it straitens the heart of the family and makes its life all the more narrow." Pope Francis was calling me out! What a lesson I learned and it couldn't have been clearer for me. I recently heard someone say we need to stop talking about what we are against and talk more about what we are for.

So my final thoughts lead me to the focus of my working group. Again when I meet with the San Diego Synod there will be five focus groups and I will stay with my focus group the entire time to discuss our questions, which are regarding the challenge to bring spiritual depth to family life. So if I could sum up this section in the book (which is the last chapter) I would do so with one word...tenderness.

Tenderness is how I remember my childhood, it's how my parents disciplined me and loved me. This is how I felt growing up and Pope Francis states in page 323: "Our loved ones merit our complete attention. Jesus is our model in this, for whenever people approached to speak with him, he would meet their gaze, directly and lovingly. No one felt overlooked in his presence, since his words and gestures conveyed the question: 'What do you want me to do for you?' This is what we experience in the daily life of the family. We are constantly reminded that each of those who live with us merits complete attention, since he or she possesses infinite dignity as an object of the Father's immense love. This gives rise to a tenderness which can 'stir in the other the joy of being loved.' Tenderness is expressed in a particular way be exercising living care in treating the limitations of the other, especially when they are evident."

Sheila, thank you for your witness. Our Parish will be praying for you as you prepare for the Synod. We look forward to your sharing its results with us!

Fr. hike