



Mary, the Holy Mother of God January 1, 2017

Pastor's Column

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

Give Your Agenda to God

As we end 2016 and begin 2017, I share with you thoughts from Fr. Henri Nouwen. May his words be a source of strength and direction for you as we all move along the continuum of time and space!

You are very concerned with making the right choices about your work. You have so many options that you are constantly overwhelmed by the question, "What should I do and what should I not do?" You are asked to respond to many concrete needs. There are people to visit, people to receive, people simply to be with. There are issues that beg for attention, books it seems important to read, and works of art to be seen. But what of all this truly deserves your time?

Start by not allowing these people and issues to possess you. As long as you think that you need them to be yourself, you are not really free. Much of their urgency comes from your own need to be accepted and affirmed. You have to keep going back to the source: God's love for you.

In many ways, you still want to set your own agenda. You act as if you have to choose among many things, which all seem equally important. But you have not fully surrendered yourself to God's guidance. You keep fighting with God over who is in control.

Try to give your agenda to God. Keep saying, "Your will be done, not mine." Give every part of your heart and your time to God and let God tell you what to do, where to go, when and how to respond. God does not want you to destroy yourself.

Exhaustion, burnout, and depression are not signs that you are doing God's will. God is gentle and loving. God desires to give you a deep sense of safety in God's love. Once you have allowed yourself to experience that love fully, you will be better able to discern who you are being sent to in God's name.

(Continued on page 2)

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 Every Day, 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

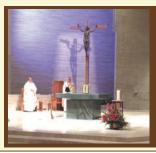


StThomasMoreRCC

follow us on







Our Church is a House of Prayer for all People!

Our Church and Blessed Sacrament Chapel are open 7:00am-7:00pm, seven days a week. The door on the left side of our main doors remains unlocked. Please enter and exit through that door. You are always welcome!



Pastor's Column (continued from page 1)

It is not easy to give your agenda to God. But the more you do so, the more "clock time" becomes "God's time," and God's time is always the fullness of time.

—Rev. Henri J. M. Nouwen The Inner Voice of Love: A Journey Through Anguish to Freedom

Happy New Year! As we move into 2017, may our "clock time" become more and more "God's time." And, in that reality, we will find joy and peace because we are living in the fullness of time!



Thank You!

Thanks for all your prayers, Masses, cards, and support during my long journey of surgeries and recovery. There are no words to express how much I appreciate everything everyone has done!

-Bernie Ptak



The Sultan and The Saint

Movie screening, Saturday, January 7, 7:00pm Parish Center Upper Level Refreshments at 6:30pm

With the rise of new forms of extremism across the Middle East and North Africa, Christians and Muslims around the world are facing a media narrative that pits both communities against one another.

St. Thomas More is excited to be partnering with the North County Islam Foundation to show a film that will serve as a counter-narrative to inspire Muslims, Christians, and others to take risks for peace and greater understanding.

In 1219, in the midst of the disastrous Fifth Crusade, Francis crossed enemy lines to gain an audience with al-Kamil, the Sultan of Egypt. Francis, who opposed the warfare, hoped to bring about peace by converting the Sultan to Christianity.

He didn't succeed, but came away from the peaceful encounter with revolutionary ideas that called for Christians to live harmoniously with Muslims. Thus began a relationship between the two that lasted the rest of their lives, each man risking his life to promote peace between their faiths.

This newly created documentary has been produced by Unity Productions Foundation and is narrated by Jeremy Irons.

For further information, please contact either Sr. Maureen Brown, our Pastoral Associate, at 760-758-4100 x131 or Regina Aulisio, our Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs Parish Liaison, at 760-295-5530, or Issam Lagrichi, North County Islam Foundation, at 760-681-0755.

Watch the trailer at www.sultanandthesaintfilm.com.

To RSVP, visit SultanSaintSanDiego.eventbrite.com.

Welcome New Parishioners Chip Mayer

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

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.

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.

STM Archives Wants Your Material

The STM Historian is looking for material from Parish events and activities since our church was established in 1985. The kinds of material that are needed include: photographs, newspaper clippings, brochures, fliers, reports, videos, drawings—anything that represents our congregational memory! Please check your drawers, file cabinets, and that creepy ol' box in the attic. You can drop off your donations at the Parish office. Thanks!

For more information and questions, please feel free to contact: Brandon at 760- 845-5450 or *brandon.oswald@gmail.com*.

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.

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

Readings for the Week Ahead

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

Sunday, January 1 (18) Mary, The Holy Mother of God Numbers 6:22-27 Psalm 67:2-3,5-6,8 Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:16-21 Monday, January 2 (510) Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, bishops, doctors Ephesians 4:1-7,11-13 Psalm 23:1b-3a,4-6 Matthew 23:8-12 Tuesday, January 3 (206) The Most Holy Name of Jesus 1 John 2:29–3:6 Psalm 98:1,3c-4,5-6 John 1:29-34 Wednesday, January 4 (207) Elizabeth Ann Seton, religious 1 John 3:7-10 Psalm 98:1.7-9 John 1:35-42 Thursday, January 5 (208) John Neumann, bishop 1 John 3:11-21 Psalm 100:1b-5 John 1:43-51 Friday, January 6 (209) André Bessette, religious 1 John 5:5-13 Psalm 147:12-15,19-20 Mark 1:7-11 or Luke 3:23-38 Saturday, January 7 (210) Raymond of Penyafort, priest 1 John 5:14-21 Psalm 149:1-6a,9b John 2:1-11 Sunday, January 8 (20) Epiphany of the Lord Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-2,7-8,10-13

Mass Intentions

Ephesians 3:2-3a,5-6

Matthew 2:1-12

Saturday, December 31, 5:00pm Judy Bayer ♥

Sunday, January 1, 8:30am Virginia Dunbar ♥

Sunday, January 1, 10:30am Helen Puzycki ♥

Monday, January 2, 8:15am Alan Romans ♥

Tuesday, January 3, 8:15am Morrissey O Callaghan ♥

Wednesday, January 4, 8:15am Melanie Petitto

Thursday, January 5, 8:15am Taylor Bell

Friday, January 6, 8:15am Guadalupe Trejo 🕆

Saturday, January 7, 5:00pm Cesarina Morelli

Sunday, January 8, 8:30am Maria Elena Quiroz 🕈

Sunday, January 8, 10:30am Gratitude for Prayers Answered Prayer List (Call 760-758-4100 x102 to add a name for four weeks.)

Changa Aguilera Ernie Aichele Mary Alexander Carrie Autrey Joshua Avery Addison Abigail Aviña Bob Baker Rosemary Ballard Jose Luis Barbosa Patricia Barbour Francie Barron William Bartha Clarice Bednarz Taylor Bell John Bennici Regina Bentz Lisa Berg Roseanne Berg The Bergeson & Thompson Families Mary Betz Betty Jean Bielich Zane Breier Janet Brown Anita Buerger Amelia Buono Shelby Campbell

Thompson Families
Mary Betz
Betty Jean Bielich
Zane Breier
Janet Brown
Anita Buerger
Amelia Buono
Shelby Campbell
Breanne Campos
Aria Cappeluti
Nanette Carey
Jorge Cartajena
Donald Cashmore
Anne Caywood
Ravy Chea
The Vaughn Clevenger
Family

Anne Cline Carl & Dorothy Coleman James Coleman Maria Colfer Addie Colgan Judy Colson Karen Connell Geoff Coolidge Sandra Cracchiolo Steven Cresencia Lené Crowe Karen Flaharty Daley Beverly de Gelder Velia Ďeal & 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 Steven Douglas Marge Egan Jerome Elbacha Arthur Eral Carolyn Erickson Ey Victoria Lopez Fenton The Fiore Family Fr. James Flanagan Mary Fleming Ryan Flum Ernie Follis Eugene Franciscus The Greg French Family Brian Frink

Eugene Franciscus
The Greg French
Family
Brian Frink
Jim Gallagher
The Joe Garcia Family
Kathy Gardner
Joan Gay
Alyssa Gerhard
Dan Gilman
Wendy Gonzales' Dad
Rick Gonzalez

Lou Gordon Loretta Graskemper George Gritt Luke Guenst Susan Hallahan Colleen Hanna The Harker Family Dorothy Harrison Michelle Harrison & Family Barbara Hatem LaNay Hazzard Matthew Henry & Family Barry Henwood Lilian Hills Lisa Hodges Georgia Ănn Hodina Samara Hook Susan Hori Iolanda Iacobelli Katherine Jacobs Jacqueline Johnson Sue Johnston Laura Kater Dottie Kearney Connor Kerzie Peggy Kiernan Debbie Kinney Mark Kneisel Dewey Kolbo Tony Korwin Faith Kowallek Helen Kuhn Lorene Kundert Lillian Lachance James Laguna

Ashley LaMothe & Family
Pauline Lapre's sister
Justine
Brandon LeBlanc
Susan Lee
Jake Lefferdink
Jeremiah Lemus
Aleah Leon
Ashley Load
Cassandra & Lauren
Loretto
Jack Lucarelli
Joaquin Maldonado
The Maldonado Family

The Lamelin Family

The Maldonado Trejo Family Paige Mansell Gloria Maupin Colleen McCall Virginia McConnell Paige McCoy Jerry McEniry Ann McGeary The McGinley Family Ann McMahan Bob McWilliams Joyce Meehan Kalei Mendiola Lorraine Micallef Rita Mikridge

Nanch Michallef
Rita Mikridge
Steven Sr., Stevie, &
Noah Miller
Tom Miller
Phyllis Minaya
June Mitchell
Maria Molina
June Montgomery
Nancy Moore
Elizabeth Muehlbacher
Conrad Murphy
Eddie Murphy
Clay Murray
Margie Myers
Andrew Philip

Nacional

Angela Nacional Melanie Nacional Joe Nastasi Nida Navarro Richard Obsitnik Gillian Ochoa Kare O'Dell Laura Paciorek Gloor Katie Padilla Ethan Palm Cynthia Pearson Salina Pearson Elisa Petrie Merri Phelps Helen Pingtella Delilah Plasterer Perry Postulka The Joe Prokop Family Bernie Ptak Barbara Ramm Randy Reznicek Jenni Richard Evelyn Richards Pat Richart Rita Ritchie Ralda Rizke Lily Robinson Mateo Rodriguez Maria Rogers The Russo Family Rachel Sainc Sam Sam Cindy Sanelli Lori Sanna Rose Mary Saputo Linda Schmidt Grace Schweighofer Joan Shea Elizabeth Shirzad Nick Soltau Gilda Spiegl Darek, Vanessa, & Elba Spizewski Don St. Pierre Patricia St. Pierre Joy Stanton

Mike Sterling
Laura Bernard Stover,
MD
Pete Sullivan
Pat Swanton
Julie Teare
Laura Thiele
Tommy & Ginger
Thompson
Maryann Tien
Sarah Tillinghast
William Tompson
Stephen Toth, Jr.
Olivia Trejo
The Trejo/Beltran
Family
The Trejo/Maldonado/
Uribe Family
Frank Urso

Sybil Staples

The Trejo/Beltran Family
The Trejo/Maldonado/
Uribe Family
Frank Urso
Martin Vertson
Lucy Vienna
Lucy Viramontes
Vanessa Vitiello
Wilson Wanner
Kevin Watson-Graff
Jerry Wechsler
Elaine Weiler
Chris West
Rylee West
The Xavier Family
Patricia Zavala
Jeanne Zeltner

Calendar Highlights

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

Dec 26-	D 11 000 00 1
Jan 2	Parish Office Closed
Dec 31	Mary Mother of God—
	Mass at 5:00pm
2017	
Jan 1	Mary Mother of God—
	Masses at 8:30am and
	10:30am
Jan 7	The Sultan and the Saint
	movie screening at 6:30pm
Jan 8	Liturgy of the Word for
	Children at 8:30am and
	10:30am Masses
Jan 8	REACH Classes at Church
Jan 8	Twelfth Night Choral
	Festival at 6:00pm
Jan 11	Wednesday Morning Bible
	Study Resumes
Jan 12	Thursday Evening Bible
	Study Resumes
Jan 31	Legacy Planning Seminars
Apr 2	New Member Luncheon

Questions? Contact Henny at

760-758-4100 x100

hennyj@stmoside.org.

The Prayers for Women Religious have moved to the monthly calendar insert—
please check there.

Deployed Military

As a faith community let us pray for all who serve our country in these troubled times. We pray especially for those connected to our Parish who have been deployed:

Gunnery Sgt. Fernando Andrade, Jr. Lt. Devon Czarzasty Major Branden M. Felker, USAF ET1 Patrick G. Felker, USN Grant Fischer Gunnery Sgt. Julian Fyffe, USMC 1st Lt. Éric Galamay MSGT Steve Gallegos, USMC Sgt. Alex Garcia Adolfo Granados, MD, US Navy PFC Samuel Haro, US Army Staff Sgt Stephan LaMothe, USAF 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 CTR2, US Navy Sr. Airman Robert Spear, USAF Sgt. Charles Watts, USMC

Social Ministries & Outreach

Christmas Angels

A very Merry Christmas was celebrated by the families and children from Solutions for Change, Catholic Charities, Camp Pendleton, and Fraternity/Michaelle House thanks to all who donated items and gift cards to the Christmas Angel Ministry.

Please remember your Crown gifts for Birth Choice are due back the weekend of January 7-8 for the Feast of the Epiphany

If you have any further questions, please contact Lisa Seufert at 760-716-0977 or *leprechaun81@sbcglobal.net*.

Do YOU Recycle?

The youth of the Parish have started a recycling ministry to raise money for their activities. The California CRV program provides a wonderful opportunity for fundraising, as more than 60% of the money raised through the CRV program never gets redeemed. Be sure to deposit your eligible drink containers in the blue recycling bins on the plaza after Masses. There will also be an information table on the plaza explaining how the program works.

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.

Brother Bennos's | St. Bonaventure Mission

Thank you for your generous support over the past years...It means so much to so many in need. On their behalf, we wish you and yours a very merry and blessed Christmas and a wonderful New Year. —Deacon Tom

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.

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

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.

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*.

Separated/Divorced—The Separated/Divorce Ministry of St. James' Parish invites those going through the pain of separation and divorce to find help and healing in a supportive small group setting. Meetings are held each Sunday at 10:15am at St. James Catholic Church at 625 South Nardo Ave., Solana Beach. Contact Frank Grant at 760-533-1520 or *fwgrantgmail.com* for more information.

Natural Family Planning—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, January 19, 7:00pm, St. Thomas More, Parish Center Upper Level. Please RSVP with Beth at 619-630-8086 or beth@veritasfertilitycare.com.

Relationship Skills Workshops—Deacon John and Debbie Fredette present Relationship Skills Workshops every Tuesday evening, 7:00-8:30pm, at St. Thomas More in the Parish Center Lower Level through January 17. Come and explore how to improve your relationship! You can attend one workshop, several, or all of them. The topic for January 10 (no meeting on January 3) is *Forgiveness and Repair*. There is no pre-registration or fee. For more information call Deacon John at 760-758-4100 x104

Bishops' Letter on Marriage—Imitating Christ: "Christian spouses are called to this imitation of Christ, an imitation that is possible only because, in the Sacrament of Matrimony, the couple receives a participation in his love. As a sacrament, marriage signifies and makes present in the couple Christ's total self-gift of love. Their mutual gift of self, conferred in their promises of fidelity and love to the end, becomes a participation in the love to the end by which Christ gave himself to the Church as to a Spouse (see Jn 13:1)." To read the document go to http://www.usccb.org/loveandlife/.

Marriage Moments— "In the beginning was the Word" (John 1:1). And the Word was made flesh. Words count. They structure our relationship with each other. They are a promise, a sign of love. What is the first (or best) word you will say to your beloved today? By Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net.

Parenting Pointers— "Thus the total number of generations was..." (Mt 1:17). Christmas is here. How many generations of your family will be present during your holidays? Listen to each other's stories. Learn about the past and future. 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.

Parish Events

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 84576 or email Deacon John to have your email added to the iHunger distribution group. (Note: breakfast is off-site on the first weekend of each month).

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.

Women's Guild News

A very happy new year to Women's Guild members and all Parishioners! The first meeting of the new year is Monday, January 9, and features our Chinese Auction which is lots of fun...provided you bring some items you may not have used (or slightly used in good condition) for the auction. We hope you will be there, 11:00am on the Parish Center Lower Level. For planning purposes, it is important for you to let us know you're coming, so please contact Patty Remington, 760-805-6935 or cprem@pacbell.net. The third annual Women's Guild Tea is set for February 25...chaired by Maureen Tutino and Mary Dahlberg. They are busy planning a wonderful Saturday again and invite you to decorate your table and bring your friends. If you would like to be involved in the planning, please contact Maureen or Mary who will welcome your assistance.

As we enter 2017, may all God's blessings be yours, with good health and happiness. —*Kathy Gerhard, president*

Catholic Widows and Widowers of North County

The second Sunday of each month is our General Meeting and Potluck at 2:00pm. On the fourth Sunday 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 more! RSVPs are required. For more information call 760-758-4100 x100.

Rosary

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



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!







Pictorial Directories Ready for Pickup!

Thank you to all who had your photos taken! Our beautiful new Pictorial Directories are here, and are ready for distribution as follows:

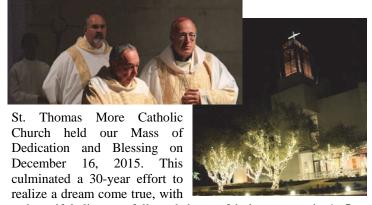
- 1. In the Parish Office between 8:30am and 4:00pm resuming January 3.
- 2. Directories are labeled and free to all Parishioners who had their pictures taken during the Lifetouch sessions at STM.



- 3. There is a \$10 charge for those who submitted photos or did not participate in the photo sessions.
- 4. Directory distribution tables will NOT be on the plaza the weekends of Christmas and New Year.

If you have questions, please contact: Kim Wright, 760-518-8465, kimw@stmoside.org

Dedication DVD Celebrates Our 30-Year History and Our Dedication Anniversary!



a beautiful liturgy, followed by a fabulous reception! Our Dedication DVD covers our 30-year history, as well as special parts of the Mass and the reception.

This is a special keepsake that all will want to have! The intro and outro are narrated by Doug D'Agrosa and Linda Brault, who both served for multiple years as chairpersons of our Pastoral Council during those 30 years. This DVD has photos of our progress as we journeyed from the beginning in 1985 up to the present and the Year of Mercy as one of the eight Pilgrim Churches in the Diocese of San Diego.

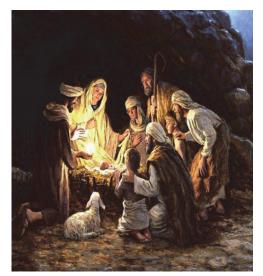
The DVD is about 53 minutes long. It is beautifully done by Thom Hiatt of Faith in Marketing! Thanks to all who helped over all the years and also in preparation for this special day and year!

DVDs are available for \$20 each on the plaza before or after all Masses, as well as in the Parish Office during working hours and online at our website, www.stmoside.org.

You may also contact Chris Smith at 760-758-4100 x120 or chriss@stmoside.org

Liturgy & Music Worship God

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



The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger.

Luke 2:16

by Patricia Datchuck Sánchez and Rafael Sánchez Alonso, from Celebration January 2017, with permission.

Upcoming Music

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JANUARY 8 Epiphany of the Lord

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5:00pm

Cappella Choir

8:30am

Tower Bells

10:30am

Sanctuary Choir

JESUS, HIS ROLE, HIS MISSION, OUR OWN

scripture themes for January

With this new liturgical year barely underway, we cannot help but notice the speed with which it is unfolding. Having just celebrated the birth of Jesus with the implications of both his first appearance as well as his second and final appearance among us, we are now thrust into the period of his ministry and its repercussions for all of humankind. There is little if any information in the Gospels about the period of Jesus' infancy to his adulthood. While apocryphal stories about this period abound, the evangelists have chosen to relate only what they deemed to be the important aspects of Jesus' life, i.e., those that are necessary for believing.

In fact, scholars tell us that the Gospels were not written in the order we now read

them. Rather, the Gospel proclamation originally began with the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus. This is the essence of the faith that leads to salvation. Gradually and with the delay of the eschaton, the saving words and works which constituted Jesus' mission were added to the Gospels. Later, the infancy narratives of Matthew and Luke as well as the Johannine prologue were added, all of which reflected the church's deeper and fuller understanding of who Jesus was and is.

During this month, the evangelists tell of the Epiphany of Jesus and his anointing by God at his baptism. These and the remaining Gospels define the person and mission of Jesus as set against the backdrop of Israel's hopes and aspirations. By juxtaposing the Hebrew Scripture texts (mostly from Isaiah), the Lectionary assures us that the mission of Jesus represented the fulfillment of God's promise. At his epiphany and baptism, Jesus is portrayed as the one through whom *all* the peoples of the earth would know the saving power of God. He is shown to be God's promised Son and Servant, anointed and sent forth on a universal mission.

On January 10, Peter will give voice to the church's gradual but growing awareness that the impartiality of God has been revealed in the person and mission of Jesus: "I begin to see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears God and acts uprightly is acceptable to God" (Acts 10:34). Although Peter's insight would come and go and although it was a struggle for many to accept, the Holy Spirit did not cease in helping believers to surrender to the all-inclusive character of God's plan and the manner in which Jesus would implement that plan.

Jesus' missiology is further attested in the Gospels for January 17, 24, and 31. In the uniquely Johannine narrative of the wedding celebration at Cana, there is so much more to be understood than the celebration of the marriage of two people and their guests. At

that feast, through his words and actions, the Johannine Jesus announced a new era in the history of salvation. The wedding venue signaled the dawn of that era in that the coming of the Messiah had long been associated with a wedding feast as well as with an abundance of fine, choice wine (Amos 9:13-14; Hosea 14:7; Jeremiah 31:12) such as Jesus had produced. In addition to this new era, the fact that the water which Jesus changed to wine was traditionally used for ritual purification also signaled a change in the way salvation should be perceived. No longer would external washing be the means, no matter how meticulous. Rather, it would be the new wine of Jesus' teaching (Mark 2:18-22) that would lead to salvation.

Moreover, rather than focus on salvation as the glorious defeat of one's enemies and a reestablishment of Israel as a military power, both the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures for this month describe Jesus' person and mission in terms of healing, forgiveness, grace, and redemption. God would not act among them as a ruthless warrior but as a bridegroom in love with a beloved bride (Jan. 17). God would also appoint not a warrior but a servant to bring goodness and grace to sinners (Jan. 10).

When Jesus appeared, ready to embrace the role of servant, he announced his purpose plainly and openly: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free and proclaim a year acceptable to God" (Luke 4:18-19). There we have it from the outset—the person of Jesus identified and his intended mission made clear. During the rest of the year, the Gospels will expand upon these facts so that we might know and accept that our own identity and mission should be consonant with that of Jesus, as individuals and as church.

Twelfth Night Festival

Sunday, January 8 | 6:00pm

Faith Formation

each and Live the Gospel

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

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

Family Faith Formation

REACH Returns on January 8!

Start the New Year Off Right!
Enroll Your Child in Faith Formation for 2017!
Classes are available for ages 3-Adult
Contact Debbie in the Faith Formation Office for Info

Sacrament Prep News



Saturday, January 14, is an M3 event for Year 1 and Year 2 Confirmation classes and their families. Join us for 5:00pm Mass and a potluck following on the Parish Center Lower Level.



Sunday, January 22, 12:30pm, is a Eucharist Parent Meeting for parents with a child in their second year of Sacrament preparation. Meet on the Parish Center Upper Level.

Adult Confirmation Preparation Begins Jan 8!

Are you an adult (19 years or older) who would like to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2017?

Classes begin Sunday, January 8, at 7:00pm and will be held twice a month through May. Please contact Debbie in the Faith Formation office at debbief@stmoside.org to discuss registering for the classes.

STM Youth "Living Nativity"



Many thanks to all the Parish families who came out to support St. Thomas More's Youth Ministry in their production of the "Living Nativity".

A big thanks to John Arguello & Sons for set design and Rebecca Eyer for all the wonderful refreshments!

The Ark Nursery



The ARK will be closed for Christmas and New Years and will reopen January 8 at the 10:30am Mass for children up to 5 years of age. Contact Lia Keane at *liak@stmoside* for more information or to buy an ARK card.

Adult Faith Formation

Bible Study News



Don't Miss Out on These Great Studies! Register Today by Calling the Faith Formation Office at 760-758-4100 x110



Wednesday Morning Bible Study will break for Christmas and New Years. We will be back on January 11 9:00-11:00am

Thursday Evening
Bible Study continues on
January 12 | 7:00-8:30pm
for childcare please RSVP to
debbief@stmoside.org prior to the
evening of the study.

Relationship Skills Workshop



Tuesday evenings, 7:00-8:30pm

Come Find Out about "The Third Option"

The next session will be held January 10 on the Parish Center Lower Level.

No need to register, and there is no cost to attend.

Sunday Missals Are Almost Gone!

Sunday Missals for the new liturgical year are now available.

The books are just \$5 and are available for purchase in the Parish

Office during the week or at the

Parish information table after all the weekend Masses.

They will sell out fast, so do not wait.

Get yours today!

Merry Christmas from Tommy's Café!



Tommy's Café will re-open for business on January 8 after the Sunday Masses Thanks for Your Support in 2016!

Youth Ministry



No EDGE on Christmas or New Year's Day





Mondays from 7:00-10:00pm Contact Matt Franklin at mattf@stmoside.org

Stewardship & Development Serve God's People

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

Collection for Week of December 17/18, 2016...

...will be reported next week.

Ways to Help Support Your Parish

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



smartphone or visit www.stmoside.org, then click on Donations, then Online Giving.

St. Francis and St. Thomas More Offertory Envelopes

Any St. Francis Offertory Envelopes given to the offertory collection at St. Thomas More will be returned to St. Francis.

Any St. Thomas More Offertory Envelopes given to the offertory collection at St. Francis will be returned to St. Thomas More.

Our Legacy ~ A Way to Give ~ A Way to Receive



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Planned Giving is a generic term that covers the many ways an individual can give to a charity while, in many cases, avoiding taxes. A few examples of Planned Giving are: Wills, Living Trusts, Designated Beneficiary Accounts, Stocks, Life Insurance, Mutual Funds, Endowments, and Real Estate.

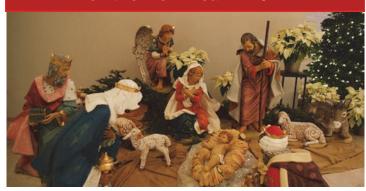
This program is one way of helping the Parish raise the resources necessary to continue our campus build out and also help plan for our future needs (i.e., Tower of Faith participants). Gifts of this nature are beneficial and much appreciated by St. Thomas More.

For more information please contact:

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

Do two or more members of your family know where to locate your Will, Living Trust, and/or Health Directive?

A Christian Stewardship Prayer for the New Year ~ 2017



Good and gracious God, a new year of grace is upon us, giving us impressions of crisp beginnings new goals, a fresh sense of hope.

Though we cling to our own expectations for the year ahead, we know you alone are the sovereign of our future, Lord of our lives, and the source of whatever good we may do.

We thank you, O Lord, for the gift of the days and weeks you have entrusted to us.

Teach us to be good stewards of our time ahead, that we go about our days keeping you at the center of our lives.

In the midst of our daily pursuits and activities, focus our eyes on the needs of others; help us respond with compassion to the poor; and open our hearts to a suffering world.

We ask for a year of peace, a year that brings an end to hatred and strife, and a year where we find a deeper joy that can only be found in you.

We ask this through Christ your Son who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever.

Amen.

—ICSC January 2017 e-bulletin (with permission)

God's blessings and peace to all in 2017 as we continue the work of Jesus in this time and place ~

Memorial Item Donations Available

Jesus on the Road to Emmaus Bronze Sculpture for Daily Mass Chapel Parish Offices	\$30,000
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) 706 available	\$300/each
Daily Mass Chapel and Choir Chairs (200) 93 available	\$300/each
Altar Server Albs (15) 8 available	\$125/each
Pipe Organ—Our pipe organ is our	

11/01/16

\$850,000

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.

"pipe dream"...but dream we must...

donations of any amount toward the

pipe organ will be accepted

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*

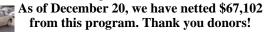
STM Vehicle Donation Program

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.



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... Information Contact: reservations@jrclosaltos.org.

Lutheran/Anglican/Roman Catholic "Day of Dialogue"—Saturday, January 21, 9:30am-12:00noon, Diocesan Pastoral Center, 3888 Paducah Dr., San Diego. \$25 at the door or send check with name, address, phone number, and email to Msgr. Dennis Mikulanis, 17252 Bernardo Center Dr., San Diego, CA 92128.



Sunday TV Mass for the Homebound—Every Sunday at 9:30am. XDTV Channel 49 (MyTV13) or www.heartofthenation.org.

John Paul the Great Catholic University Master of Arts in Biblical Theology—For more information, go to www.jpcatholic.com or contact 858-653-6740 x1117.

Detention Ministry Volunteers Needed—Spend a couple hours per week or once per month to serve on a ministry team and pray, read scripture, and facilitate discussion with Catholic inmates. Information and Training Seminar scheduled for January 10. Visit www.sdcatholic.org/restore or contact 858-490-8375 or jwalsh@sdcatholic.org for more information.

Volunteer Reading Tutors Needed—Oasis Tutoring is seeking volunteers who can spend one hour a week at a local elementary school with a K-4th grade child. No experience required; training provided; clearance required. For more information, contact John Dunnicliff at 760-796-6020.

Meals with Love-Vista/Oceanside—Provides nutritious meals at reasonable cost to the homebound. For more information, visit *www.mealswithlove.org* or call 888-495-5075.

Young Adult Opportunities around the Diocese

For more information visit www.yamsd.org.

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:

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- Equal tuition rates,
- · Financial aid opportunities, and
- Fundraising support.

For a video about the school, visit: http://tinyurl.com/gwqu23u

Pastoral Council Committees



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Parish Contacts

Updated 11/20/2016

Spirited Seniors......Jim & Marilyn Day 760-509-4545

Council Chairpersons: Pastoral-Lisa Attardo 760-940-1505 • Finance-Ron Briseno 760-224-3105 • Development-Jody Cadieux 760-809-9761

Pastoral Council Committees	Spirited Semois			
Religious Education/Faith Formation/Evangelization	Treasures Rummage Sale			
Rory Griffin 760-414-3939	Walking Ministry			
Religious Education for Adolescents & Children (RE.A.CH)	Women's Guild			
Debbie Fredette 760-758-4100 x110	Social Ministries			
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 & KidsLia Haubert 760-758-4100 x100	CPR/AED Classes			
Natalia Sada 760-758-4100 x100	Culture of LifeJane Kelleher 760-822-7041			
Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs Regina Aulisio 760-295-5530	Disability FacilitationAnn Eriksson 760-305-9985			
Youth Ministry Matt Franklin 760-758-4100 x161	Jail MinistryRita McCarthy 760-758-4100 x100			
High School	Mental Health Ministry			
Young Adults				
Religious Education for Adults Debbie Fredette 760-758-4100 x110	Prayer Request LinePat Wong 760-806-1310			
Bible Study	Lee Coccaro 760-598-6248			
Centering Prayer Mary Williams 760-758-4100 x100	Project LinusMary Coxon 760-599-8760			
Men's Fellowship	Social Justice Committee			
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	Family Shoe Ministry			
Interior Design TeamPat & Phil Goscienski 760-732-1414	St. Bonaventure Mission			
Liturgical MinistriesDouglas Lynn 760-758-4100 x140	Office Support			
Music MinistryDouglas Lynn 760-758-4100 x140	General Support			
Sacristans—Altar Guild Diana Diaz 760-758-7870	Kitchen ManagerRebecca Eyer 760-758-4100 x100 Development Council Committees			
Sacristans—Altar LinensAnna Meyers 760-727-4998				
Marriage & Family Life Jen Frost 858-692-7438	Annual Catholic AppealLorraine Doering 760-758-4100 x102 New ConstructionBrian Leahey 760-224-1674			
Bringing the Celebration HomeJen Frost 858-692-7438	Parish Membership			
Diocesan LiaisonAndrea Spencer 760-560-6540	Planned Giving			
Family ServicesRev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100	Publicity/Public RelationsJane Gladden 760-659-6168			
Marriage Preparation Rev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100	Scrip Sales Andrea Sweeney 760-216-6389			
Widows & Widowers of North CountyCarol Kope 760-758-4100	Lisa Seufert 760-732-5965			
Parish Organizations & Events	Stewardship			
Annual Gala	Vehicle Donations			
Historian/Archives	Welcome Ministry			
Knights of Columbus	Welcome Himsely Chris Shiner 700 730 1100 X120			
Social ActivitiesHenny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100				
Pastoral Staff				
Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor	760-758-4100 x100 michaelr@stmoside.org			
Rev. Karl Bauer, Senior Priest	760-758-4100 x133 karlb@stmoside.org			
Dcn. John Fredette	760-758-4100 x104			
Dcn. Tom Goeltz	760-758-4100 x100 thomasg@stmoside.org			
Sr. Maureen Brown, Pastoral Associate				
Dcn. John Fredette, Business Manager				
Debbie Fredette, Director of Faith Formation	760-758-4100 x110 debbief@stmoside.org			
Matt Franklin, Youth Advocate				
Stacey Griffin, Faith Formation Office Assistant				
Lia Keane, Director of Ark Nursery				
Douglas Lynn, Director of Liturgy and Music				
Kathy Santy, Assistant Music Director				
Sally Fay, Organist/Choir Accompanist	/60-/58-4100 x100			
Chris Smith, Director of Stewardship and Development				
Joe Garcia, Director of Maintenance				
Henny Jocelyn, Receptionist/Secretary				
Lorraine Doering, Parish Office Technician				
Rebecca Eyer, Sacristan				
Brian Leahey, Director of Construction	/0U-/38-41UU X132 brianl@stmoside.org			
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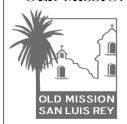
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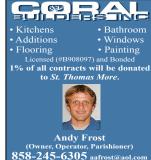
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