

Church of St. Thomas More

A Roman Catholic Parish in the Diocese of San Diego

1450 South Melrose Drive
Oceanside, CA 92056
760.758.4100 Phone • 760.758.4165 Fax
www.stmoside.org • parishoffice@stmoside.org



Spirituality + Tradition + Community

Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor
Deacon Thomas A. Goeltz
Rev. Thomas W. Thompson, Pastoral Associate
(858-945-2251) Hospital Chaplain at
Scripps La Jolla, Scripps Green, & UCSD Thornton

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

Mass Schedule
Saturday at 5:00pm
Sunday at 8:30am and 10:30am
Tuesday-Friday at 8:15am
First Monday of the Month at 7:00pm

Eucharistic Adoration
Monday-Friday, 6:30am-7:30pm

Reconciliation (Confession)
Saturday, 4:00-4:30pm

January 6, 2008 • The Epiphany of the Lord

Fr. Mike's "Bookies" Discuss
Christ the Lord Out of Egypt
Wednesday, January 9, 9:00am or 7:00pm

Fr. Michael Jacques from New Orleans Visits
Potluck on Saturday, January 12, 6:00pm

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Pastor's Column

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

Gifts of the Magi



Today we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany. This day celebrates the manifestation of the infant Jesus as the one given by God not just to and for the Jews but for the entire human race. The celebration of Epiphany actually predates the celebration of Christmas by several hundred years.

The astrologers who have traveled from the East are non-Jews and the "intelligentsia" of that day and time. Yet, they find their way to Bethlehem and to the "babe wrapped in swaddling clothes" and along with poor Jewish shepherds worship the One sent by God.

These "Wise Men" offer gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, gifts that already in this infancy narrative (Matthew 2) foretell who this Jesus is and what will happen to him.

(Continued on page 3)

Calendar Highlights

Also check the parish website for complete calendar info:
www.stmoside.org, then select "Schedules and Calendars"

The Week Ahead

- Jan 6 Liturgy of the Word for Children at the 10:30am Mass
 Jan 6 High School RE.A.CH classes
 Jan 7 Monday Night Mass at 7:00pm
 Jan 9 Fr. Mike's "Bookies"
 Jan 12-13 Fr. Michael Jacques of St. Peter Claver, New Orleans, celebrates Masses; Potluck after 5:00pm Mass
 Jan 13 Liturgy of the Word for Children at the 8:30am Mass
 Jan 13 RE.A.CH classes, including high school

The Month Ahead

- Jan 14 Women's Guild Luncheon Meeting
 Jan 14 Women's Guild Fashion Show Planning Meeting
 Jan 20 Knights of Columbus Breakfast
 Jan 24 Spirited Seniors Present
 Project Care Wellness Seminar
 Jan 25-27 Teen Retreat: SIX30
 Jan 27 North County Catholic Widows and Widowers to attend 10:30am Mass
 Jan 27 RE.A.CH Classes, including high school
 Jan 28 Project Linus Coffee

The Year Ahead

- Feb 16-Mar 2 New Orleans Trip
 Feb 25 Lenten Day of Recollection sponsored by Women's Guild and Spirited Seniors
 Mar 9 Spirited Seniors travel to Rolling Hills Covenant Church to see "Pageant of Our Lord"

Prayer List for 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:

Gy. Sgt. Barry Bull, USMC
Christian Caplinger, US Army
Nicholas B. Dawson
Capt. Gregory Day, USMC
Lance Corporal Brandon Doyle, USMC
MSGT Steve Gallegos, USMC
Sgt. Stephen Gerke, 101st Airborne
Lt. Col Robert T. Green, USAF
Cpl. Michael Guty, USMC
Major David E. Johnson, US Army
Lance Cpl. Ryan Keck, USMC
Cpl. Andrew G. Klidzejs, USMC
Med. Staff Sgt. Jana Alexander Madrid, USAF
Ronald Meyers, US Navy Search & Rescue
Lance Cpl. Steven A. Michaels, USMC
Spec. Jared Ratzlaff, US Army
SPC Robert Sullivan, US Army
Lt. Col. Robert C. Wright, USMC
Capt. Thomas Zeeff, USAF

All-powerful God, be their constant companion and strength in every adversity. May they experience your faithful presence, gentle love and compassionate healing.

Contact the parish office at 758-4100 x102 to add a name.

Readings for the Week Ahead

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

Sunday, January 6 (20)

The Epiphany of the Lord
 Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm 72

Ephesians 3:2-3a,5-6

Matthew 2:1-12

Monday, January 7 (212)

1 John 3:22-4:6

Psalm 2:7bc-8,10-12a

Matthew 4:12-17,23-25

Tuesday, January 8 (213)

1 John 4:7-10

Psalm 72:1-2,3-4,7-8

Mark 6:34-44

Wednesday, January 9 (214)

1 John 4:11-18

Psalm 72:1-2,10,12-13

Mark 6:45-52

Thursday, January 10 (215)

1 John 4:19-5:4

Psalm 72:1-2,14,15bc,17

Luke 4:14-22

Friday, January 11 (216)

1 John 5:5-13

Psalm 147:12-15,19-20

Luke 5:12-16

Saturday, January 12 (217)

1 John 5:14-21

Psalm 149:1-6a,9b

John 3:22-30

Sunday, January 13 (21)

The Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7

Psalm 29

Acts 10:34-38

Matthew 3:13-17

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 5, 5:00pm

Nancy Tomlinson ✠

Sunday, January 6, 8:30am

Helen & Cornelius Garrigan ✠

Sunday, January 6, 10:30am

Frank Colbourn ✠

Monday, January 7, 7:00pm

For the Youth of the Parish

Tuesday, January 8, 8:15am

Coleen Bechtold

Wednesday, January 9, 8:15am

Joe Elbert ✠

Thursday, January 10, 8:15am

The Northrup Family

Friday, January 11, 8:15am

Peter & Mary Glenane

Saturday, January 12, 5:00 pm

Luther Crowell ✠

Sunday, January 13, 8:30am

Frank Hannon ✠

Sunday, January 13, 10:30am

Josephine Mase

Prayer List

Jay Ahmann
 Michael Ainis
 Charlotte Atkinson & family
 Patricia Barbour
 Carl Bechtold
 Edward Bednarz
 Cindra Bell
 Tom Belprez
 Janet Brown
 Karen Cardone
 Carl Coleman
 James Coleman
 Judy Crane
 Celia Dagdayan
 Deborah Darsey
 Daphne Dunn
 James Echter
 Larry Fisk
 Edmund Fredette
 Andrew Frizell
 Bob Gardiner
 Rick Gonzalez
 Anita Hage
 Deborah Hargis
 The Harker Family
 Bud Hazlett
 Barry Henwood
 Cynthia Horner
 Bernie & Ginny Jaeger
 The John Jones Family
 Sue Johnston
 Colleen Kaup
 The Kaup & Fisk Families
 Paul Kennedy
 Debbie Kinny
 Sr. Anne Kremenik
 Lillian Lachance
 Brandon LeBlanc
 Jackie Lynn
 James MacArthur
 Ken Mauro
 Baby Steven Florian Miller
 The Mitkevich Family
 Nancy Moore
 Judith Nichols
 R. Northrup
 Patricia O'Gaffney
 Ana Patterson
 Patti Phillips
 Helen Pingtella
 The Pokojni Family
 Anne Post
 Laurie Riggs
 Sr. Loyola Romey
 Dorothy Rouse
 Lynne Rumpf
 Marilyn Sinkez
 Jo Anne Stoddard & family
 Richard Vallandigham
 The Vasquez & Borba Families
 Doris Vessell
 Lee Vincent
 Vanessa Vitiello-Koble
 The Walsh Family
 Kevin Watson-Graff

Call 758-4100 x102 to add a name for four weeks.

(Pastor's Column continued from page 1)

GOLD

Gold is the gift given to royalty. He is King and God!

FRANKINCENSE

The Hebrew word for incense is derived from a verb meaning "to cause to smoke" and is used to denote the smoke from a sacrifice burnt on the altar (1 Samuel 2:15-16; Psalms 66:15). There were two types of incense; one consisted entirely of frankincense (Leviticus 2:1,15) and was used in conjunction with certain meal offerings. The incense of frankincense together with a handful of fine flour mixed with oil was offered on the outer altar of the sanctuary. Frankincense was also an ingredient of the offering of the showbread (Leviticus 24:7). This Jesus will be sacrificed and will be offered up on our behalf and is bread for us!

MYRRH

The use of scents and ointments was very necessary in the primitive hygienic conditions of the ancient world. In private life, perfumes and spices were used as ingredients in perfumed oils, ointments, and powders, for cosmetic purposes, to protect the skin from the heat of the sun and the dry air, and in medicine. No less important was the role they played in the religious rituals of the ancient Near East.

Myrrh was one of the most important perfumes in biblical times. It was used in the preparation of the oil with which kings were anointed (Exodus 30:23-24). It was a precious gift and much used by women (Proverbs 7:17; Esther 2:12; Song of Songs 4:14). Together with aloe it was used in preparing Jesus' body for burial (John 19:39).

Myrrh is extracted by means of incisions in the bark of a small tree that grows in tropical Africa and Arabia. This Jesus who is King, God, and "Bread For Us" will be sacrificed and will die for us!

On this Feast of the Epiphany, we celebrate the manifestation of Jesus to the world as God's gift of love to us. In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, God shows us how completely we are loved: "In this way the love of God was revealed to us: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might have life through him. In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as expiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also must love one another." (1 John 4:9-11)

The gift given to us is meant to be shared with others!

Happy Epiphany!

Fr. Mike

Retirement Fund for Religious

Envelopes are attached to the bulletin this weekend for the *Retirement Fund for Religious* annual collection. Over the past eighteen years, parishes in the Diocese of San Diego have contributed \$5,127,215 to help support retired religious. Please also continue to pray for religious priests, brothers, and sisters, especially for the frail and elderly. The envelopes may be returned any time during January. Envelopes will also be available on the information table on the Plaza. Thank you!



St. Thomas More Monday Night Mass

6:50pm - Praise

7:00pm - Mass

**We encourage all Parishioners to
join us on January 7 for**

MONDAY NIGHT MASS!

Mark your calendar and join us!

"Singing Is Praying Out Loud!"

**We will continue to collect boxes of Juice Bags and
Cheese & Crackers for "Stand Up For Kids."**

Sister Parish Pastor Exchange

Mark Your Calendars for the Evening of Saturday, January 12!



The weekend of January 12-13, Fr. Michael Jacques, the Pastor of St. Peter Claver, our Sister Parish in New Orleans, will be here at our Parish and celebrating all of the weekend Masses. At the same time, our Pastor, Fr. Mike, will be visiting St. Peter Claver,



celebrating all of the Masses there, and carrying our best wishes for their continued recovery.

Potluck Dinner

On Saturday evening, January 12, after the 5:00pm Mass, our parish will be hosting a potluck dinner so that we can hear more from Fr. Jacques about what is happening in New Orleans and in particular, the folks at St. Peter Claver, as well as enjoying fellowship with him and with each other!

You will have an opportunity to sign up for the potluck after all Masses this weekend., or you may call 758-4100 x131 by Thursday evening, January 10, and leave a message with your name, phone number, number of attendees and what you plan to bring to the potluck dinner.

Equipment Needed for New Orleans

See page 8 for more details. Thank you!

Scrip Sales Resume This Weekend

The Scrip table returns to the Plaza after weekend Masses this weekend. Scrip is also sold on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 9:00-10:00am in the parish office. Thanks to everyone who helped to make our Christmas sales the best ever. Watch for our report on December proceeds, and keep up the good work!

Our Mission is to: worship God,

Mass Schedule: Saturday at 5:00pm; Sunday at 8:30am and 10:30am;
Tuesday-Friday at 8:15am; first Monday of the month at 7:00pm;
watch bulletin for holydays

Rite of Reconciliation (Confession): Saturday from 4:00-4:30pm
(or by appointment)

Eucharistic Adoration: Monday-Friday from 6:30am-7:30pm

Liturgical Ministry: Contact Douglas Lynn at 758-4100 x140

Choirs and Music Ministry: Contact Douglas Lynn at 758-4100 x140

Communion for the Homebound/Hospitalized: Contact Parish Office

Anointing of the Sick: Contact Parish Office

Matrimony: Contact Parish Office a minimum of 9 months in advance
For further information, call Rev. Michael Ratajczak at 758-4100 x100

teach and live the Gospel of Jesus Christ,

Inquiry into the Catholic Faith: First and third Thursday evenings

Religious Education for Youth & Children: Two times a month,
September-May, on Sundays

Religious Education for Adults: Various times, September-May

Liturgy of the Word for Children: 8:30 and 10:30am Masses

Little Rock Scripture Study: Weekly sessions, morning or evening

High School Youth Ministry: Monday evenings

Middle School Youth Ministry: Two Monday evenings per month

Preparation for the Sacraments:

Baptism (for infants): Begins with an appointment with the Pastor

Baptism (7-14 yrs.)/RCIA: One to two year process with children and
parents

Baptism (adults)/RCIA: One to two year process; weekly sessions

First Reconciliation: In home process begins in Level 1

First Communion: In home process begins after first reconciliation

Confirmation: Minimum two year process of preparation; begins in
high school

For further information, call Kathleen Bell at 758-4100 x110

and serve God's people in word and deed.

There are many groups who serve the parishioners
and provide outreach to the local community.

For further information, call Chris Smith at 758-4100 x120

Women's Guild News

Board Meeting—Monday, January 7, at 12:30pm at Germaine Wilmott's home to discuss plans for the January 14 meeting and other events. Please try to attend! RSVP to Germaine at 758-9949 or Mary Vernacci at 599-4386.

Luncheon Meeting—Monday, January 14, at 11:00am. We will be having a Chinese Auction. Please bring your gently used knick knacks such as Lenox, Lladro or Hummel figurines, or take this opportunity to recycle your Christmas presents. Cost is \$7. Please RSVP by January 11 to Mary Vernacci at 599-4386 or Germaine Wilmott at 758-9949.

Fashion Show Committee Meeting—Monday, January 14, at 2:00pm in the lower level of the Parish Center. Any woman interested in attending is invited. The Fashion Show will be held April 26 at the Shadowridge Country Club. For more information, contact Valerie Thompson at 630-1703.

Knights of Columbus Breakfast

Sunday, January 20, 9:00-11:00am

Times are selected to accommodate both Masses, so join us after the 8:30am Mass or come early before the 10:30am Mass. MENU: French Toast, Eggs, Sausage, Berries, Coffee, Juice. Adults: \$6; Children: \$4. To make reservations for 6 or more, call 732-0543, Start planning now with your family and friends to join us!

Welcome to Newly Registered Parishioners

Dorothy Hanratty

Barry & Jennifer Pawalek & family

Jose & Elsa Torres & family

Flower Donation

We would like to gratefully acknowledge the contributions of :

Helen and William Fassinger

whose generosity helped to defray the cost of flowers this weekend in our liturgical environment.

In Memoriam



Please pray for the souls of:

Gregory Mitkevich, who died on December 28. Please keep his wife, Irene, and the family in your prayers.

John Pokojni, who died on January 1. His Funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Thomas More on Saturday, January 5. Please keep the family in your prayers as well.

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

High School Youth Ministry

Opens 2008 with...

Monday Night Mass

January 7 at 7:00pm

Second-Wednesday-of-the-Month Adoration

January 9

7:00pm Blessed Sacrament Chapel

8:30pm Pick up at Starbucks near RBV

Six30 Retreat Registration

Due on Monday!

Bring your form on Monday during office hours or at MNM

For more information, call Gale at 726-7236



***Middle School
Youth Group***

Next Meeting

Monday, January 14

7:00-8:30pm Upper Level

www.stmoside.org/ym

Any questions call

Ron or Louise Briseno 758-4100 x153

Liturgy & Music

Worship God

Douglas Lynn
Director of Music/Coordinator of Liturgical Ministries
douglasl@stmoside.org; 758-4100 x140

GOD'S PURPOSE FOR MUSIC

In Colossians 3:12-17, God gives a model for corporate worship at a church, including an instruction to sing:

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The outworking of Christ's word in our lives is to be filled with thanks for all God has done for us in Christ, and to encourage one another to give our lives to him as Lord. Singing is the expression of that in a fundamentally human way. God has given us only a few ways to express our relationship with others. We can speak, we can touch, we can read and write, we can gesture. And we can sing.

It seems to me that singing is one of the most emotive ways human beings can communicate their thoughts and feelings. Songs affect us in a way that mere spoken words can't. They are emotional. They fill our eyes with tears, or cause us to lift our hands with joy.

Music has been at the heart of creation from the beginning of time, and has been the inescapable emotional response of God's creatures to his goodness. When God laid the foundations of the earth, "all the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy" (Job 38:7). And at the end of days, at the wedding feast of the Lamb, the great multitude will sing "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns!" (Revelation 19:6).

So what does it mean to be faithful to God's purpose for music at church? Our singing should be an emotional response to the God. Music helps us respond emotionally to God and his people, as we sing of God's works, give him thanks and praise, and encourage one another to live for him.

— ReasonMusic



SUN FROM CLOUD

The twelfth day of Christmas is the solemn feast of the Epiphany, January 6. In the United States, the celebration of the Epiphany is transferred to a Sunday so that all may celebrate. The word epiphany comes from the Greek and means "revelation," and so we celebrate the revelation of Christ to the magi, who were gentiles and did not belong to the people of Israel.

Learn this Appalachian folk song in honor of the star that guided the magi to the Christ child. Find out if anyone you know is familiar with it and could teach it to you. (Take the time!) Or check a local record store's folk section. (If that fails, try shopping around on the Internet.) The words are:

*Bright mornin' star's arisin'
Bright mornin' star's arisin'
Bright mornin' star's arisin'
Day is breakin' in my soul.*

The daily prayer of the Orthodox churches gives us these lovely verses for the solemn feast of the Epiphany:

*The magi who had been led on their way
by a divine star
stood before you in wonder at your
marvelous birth;
and bearing gifts they see the sun
who rose from the virgin cloud.
Let the people who sat in darkness
see shining forth the light that knows no
evening,
him whom the stars once manifested
to the fire-worshipping Persian kings.*

Glory in heaven and peace on earth, now and forever!

CHOIR START UP!

This is the best mid-year opportunity to join a choir!

Monday Night Mass Music Team

Tuesday at 7:00pm

Handbell Choir

Wednesday at 6:30pm

Children's Choir

Thursday at 6:00pm

Adult Choir

Thursday at 7:00pm

All groups meet on the Upper Level of the Parish Center.

Faith Formation

Teach and Live the Gospel

Kathleen Bell
Director of Faith Formation
kathleenb@stmoside.org; 758-4100 x110

What's Faith Got to Do With it?

Incarnation

In the incarnation, God takes on human flesh in Jesus, in the Eucharist, and in all who are sincere in faith. The incredible graciousness, power, and mercy that came into our world in Jesus is still, at least potentially so, in our world in us, the Body of Christ. What Jesus did we too can do; in fact, that is precisely what we are asked to do.

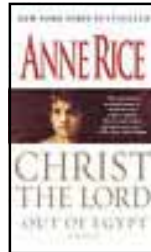
In the movie *Dead Man Walking*, there is a particularly poignant scene: Sister Helen Prejean, the Roman Catholic nun who is helping a prisoner on death row prepare to die, tells him that when he is strapped to the chair, injected with the lethal solutions, waiting to die, he should watch her face. 'That way the last thing you will see before you die will be the face of someone who loves you.' He does that and dies in love rather than in bitterness.

An elder in the church is anyone sufficiently enough in grace and maturity to, like Sister Helen Prejean, say to another person: 'In your bitterness and anger, in your sickness, watch my face and there you will see the face of someone who loves you. Hold my hand and resist bitterness. Forgive, let go, be at peace.' Thus, any one of us who visits a sick or dying person, regardless of how inadequate and stuttering our actual words might be, anoints that person, just as a priest does in the sacrament of the sick. To touch a sick person's hand or to speak words of affection or consolation to a dying person, in its own way, does what the woman at Bethany did for Jesus and what Helen Prejean did for Patrick Sonnier. It anoints them for their impending death. The incarnation has given us incredible power.

The God of the incarnation has real flesh on earth and speaks to us in the bread and butter of our lives, through things that have skin—historical circumstance, our families, our neighbors, our churches, and that borderline-psychotic friend who painfully reminds us that we are not God. When we look for God's guidance these voices on earth must complement the voice from heaven.

—Ronald Rolheiser

Father Mike's Bookies ~ Meeting Soon !

**Book:*** *Christ the Lord, Out of Egypt* by Anne Rice**Discussion:**

* January 9 ~ 9:00am or 7:00pm

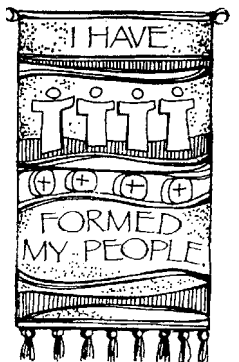
Input Welcome:

* If you have a question or issue you would like discussed with the group, please email it to Fr. Mike at michaelsr@stmoside.org, or write it down and leave it in his mailbox. You may wish to identify whether it is for group discussion or response from Fr. Mike.

Great Opportunity!

If you are involved in a teaching ministry of the church (or would like to get involved!), here's a chance to get "qualified."

The Basic Catechist Formation Course is a 48-hour course intended to equip beginning catechists, or those needing renewal in contemporary catechetics, with sufficient background and skill to begin teaching. The course incorporates the essential elements of message, prayer, community and service and provides an integrated program of doctrinal reflection, catechetical process, religious development and creative teaching methods for children through adults.



This course is offered at different times and places throughout the diocese. The good news is that one is starting in north county at St. Mary's School in Escondido. It begins February 2 and involves some Saturdays and Thursday evenings until April 12.

To register, call Sharon Twilliger at 745-8255, or for more information, call Patt Goeltz at 727-8442.

Looking for Information on the Catholic Faith?

Are you interested in learning more about Catholicism, becoming a Catholic or returning to the Catholic Church after being away? You're invited to Inquiry Sessions, which meet on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 7:00pm at the Parish Center.

For information, call Bob Taylor at 630-4589.

Peanut Butter and Jelly Update:

2008 GOAL: 365 jars
TOTAL to date: 131 jars



Stewardship & Development

Serve God's People

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

Christian Stewardship Our Homage to God ~ 2008

People these days are aware of the significance of time as never before in human history. The idea that this is a peaceful and unhurried existence has been replaced by a rush to accomplish desired purposes immediately, as if there might not be tomorrow in which to do it. People are living in a sense of urgency.

Time is holy because it may be limited. The condition of the world is such that the representatives of any of the sciences and religion join in the belief that time as we have known it may have a definite limit. The current means of destruction could possibly obliterate most life from the face of the earth.

A Christian steward who is faithful in the use of time does not live in fear of the future, but constantly faces the question of whether or not they are making wise use of the years (minutes, hours, days) at their disposal. The steward asks, "Am I being true to God if I devote all my time to work, pleasure and sleep, even if I do tithe my money?"

—Stewardship, January 2008



As we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, we remember the three wise men from the East who came to pay homage to the infant Jesus, bring Him rich gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.



This weekend, our tradition at St. Thomas More is bringing gifts to benefit Birth Choice of San Marcos. In so doing, we pay homage to Jesus by providing for other newborn infants who are also born into this world despite difficult situations.

The recipients of these newborn necessities are so very grateful for our love and support. And God is grateful for our love and support of our brothers and sisters in need.

Today, just as 2008 years ago when Christ was born, the Christian steward is concerned about the wise use of our time, talents and resources in our time and place. We don't know the day or the hour of our death, so as long as we live, it behooves us to be accountable for all that God has given us.

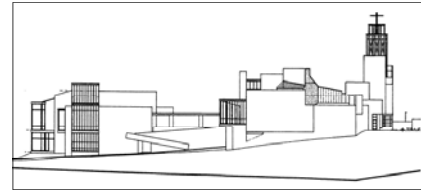


Our days, years and resources are a part of a sacred trust, given to us by God for as long as we live. The gifts that we bring—our time, service and a share of what we earn for the work we do—are equally precious in His sight!

Think of giving not as a duty but as a privilege.

—John D. Rockefeller Jr.

A WAY TO GIVE ~ A WAY TO RECEIVE



WILLS, LIVING TRUSTS, STOCKS, IRA'S, DESIGNATED BANK ACCOUNTS, LIFE INSURANCE, MUTUAL FUNDS

There have been changes in the tax laws that are beneficial to both the recipient and the giver. A few examples of Planned Giving to STM are: Designated Beneficiary Accounts, Wills, Living Trusts, Stocks, Life Insurance and Mutual Funds.

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). Planned Giving is a generic term that covers the many ways an individual can give to a charity while, in many cases, avoiding taxes.

For more information please contact:
Chris Smith at 758-4100 x120 or chriss@stmoside.org.

"Our Journey Into The Future . . . Together"
includes our Faith journey as well as the
build out of our Parish Campus.

Christmas 2007 Collection to Date
\$27,937.32

"Did You Know" Donation Update
December 2007: \$18,913

Collection for Week of: December 29/30, 2007

Number of Registered Households:	966
Envelopes	\$ 6,809.13
Children's Envelopes	0.00
Plate	2,101.00
Total	\$ 8,910.13

There are many ways to help support your Parish.

We offer a variety of options for easier giving. In addition to the extra "mail-back" envelopes included in your packet, we offer automatic:

- ◆ Credit Card Withdrawal (Visa or MC)
- ◆ Automatic Checking Account Deduction
- ◆ Automatic Savings Account Deduction

To participate in these time-saving alternatives, please contact the Parish Office at:
758-4100 x100 or parishoffice@stmoside.org

Eucharistic Adoration

Monday-Friday • 6:30am-7:30pm,
Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Spend a few minutes (or more) with
Jesus!

Exposition of the Eucharist on First
Fridays and one other day of each month.
The next date is Friday, January 25.

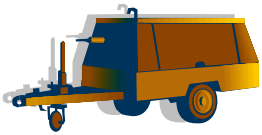
For more information, contact John O'Donnell at 598-6003.



Caring Drivers Needed

Several STM parishioners need round trip transportation to church, grocery stores, and medical appointments. If you can help, please contact STM's Disabilities Facilitator at 599-7151.

Equipment Needed for New Orleans



The house rebuilding volunteers traveling to New Orleans in February 2008 need one or more small, enclosed cargo trailers to transport and store their tools. Renting small cargo trailers from U-Haul costs about \$600 for the round trip. We would prefer putting that amount of money toward buying building supplies for the needy families in our Sister Parish, St. Peter Claver.

If you know someone who would be willing to loan their trailer for one month to the volunteers, please contact Dick Belprez at 295-1431. Contact Sr. Maureen if you are interested in joining the New Orleans rebuild effort.

STM Scrip News

Thank you to all who participate in this painless way to earn money for our new sanctuary, and thank you to the merchants that are willing to participate by providing gift certificates at a discount.

Scrip is sold on the Plaza after weekend Masses and in the parish office on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00-10:00am.

For information, call Henny Jocelyn at 726-1177
or visit <http://www.stmoside.org/scrip.htm>

I Want to Earn STM Building Fund \$\$\$ with My...

Albertson's Card #(11 digits) _____

Ralph's Card #(13 digits) _____

☐ Please send me a Food 4 Less Card

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Please place completed form in the collection basket or return it to the \$CRIP table after weekend Masses or the Parish

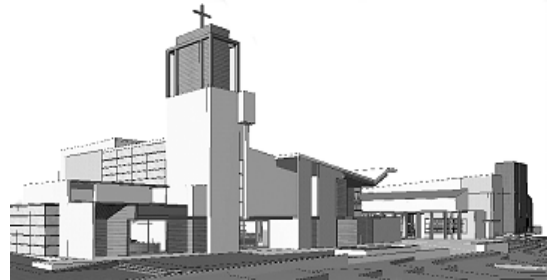
Parish "Build-Out" Moves Forward!

Bishop Brom was here at St. Thomas More on Monday, December 10, and made a special announcement!

We have the Bishop's permission to hire an architect, hire an interior design consultant for our Church, create all the necessary construction documents, and obtain all the necessary permits.

Parish Leadership will now be meeting and planning how we will be moving forward. Early in January, the Parish will be informed of all the details.

Great news as we begin 2008! The Parish "Build-Out" moves forward!



Ministry to the Sick and Homebound

If you or a family member are unable to come to Mass because of an illness or disability, we have a special group of parishioners who can bring Communion to your home. Please call the Parish Office at 758-4100 x100.

Publicize Your Parish Event!

Would you like to publicize a parish event to the general public? Submit a Press Release Form at least three weeks in advance of your event to have it advertised in local news publications. Press Release Forms are available:

- on the parish website (www.stmoside.org, Contact Us, Parish Forms),
- the parish office, or
- from Anne Marshall at 727-2668 or annemarshall@sbcglobal.net.



St. Thomas More Vehicle Donation Program

Do you have a vehicle you want to donate?
The St. Thomas More program is easy!

Call us, and we'll have it picked up.
You get the tax deduction!

Call the Parish Office at
760-758-4100 x100



News from the Larger Church

Emmaus Road Initiative Presentations in San Diego—Wednesday, January 16, 7:00pm at USD Degheri Alumni Center and Thursday, January 17, 10:00am at Immaculate Conception Church, 2540 San Diego Ave., Old Town. “Inspiring Wholehearted Faith in a Half-Hearted Age” is the theme for a series of monthly talks given by Mr. Gil Bailie, president of the Cornerstone Forum. For more information, call 866-506-5451 or visit www.cornerstone-forum.org/Emmaus.

North County Women’s Group Meeting in Escondido—Magnificat: A Ministry to Catholic Women will meet January 19 at 9:00am at California Center for the Arts in Escondido. Come and gather together for a spirit-filled breakfast. Personal testimony given by Donna Ross. For reservations call Mary Carey at 871-8702 or visit our website at: www.members.cox.net/magnificat.

Millennium Consort Singers Performing in San Diego—Sunday, January 20, 6:00pm, at St. Paul’s Cathedral. Millennium Consort Singers, conducted by PACEM’s Artistic Director Martin Neary. A stunning professional group from Los Angeles, the singers will perform music of Henry Purcell, Jonathan Harvey, and Ralph Vaughan Williams in St Paul’s Cathedral. Some works are a cappella, and others are for choir and organ. For ticket cost and more information, contact 619-296-6759 or pacem@pacem.music.org.

Prayer Retreats in Silence at Prince of Peace Abbey in Oceanside—“Ask and ye shall receive; seek and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened to you (Luke 11:9).” *Prayer Service in Silence* involves steps leading to contemplative prayer. Open to all Catholics seeking a deeper spirituality. Retreat Master, Fr. Datus, OSB, is an experienced teacher of religious and laity alike. January 21-25. For more information contact 909-790-9243 or ethelbuntydavis@msn.com.

Wine and Chocolate Pairing and Horticultural Tour at Mission San Luis Rey in Oceanside—If you’re looking for a unique celebration close to Valentine’s Day, set aside 4:00-5:00pm on Thursday, January 24. Indulge in a wine and chocolate pairing after embarking on a tour of the historic Mission San Luis Rey grounds. Treat your sweetheart to wines from the Mission wine label and discover the health benefits of chocolate. The ever-popular Horticultural Tour of the Mission will be held earlier that day: 2:00-4:00pm. Cost: \$10 tour; \$10 wine and chocolate pairing. To make reservations for this wonderful event, please contact 757-3651 x146.

High School Applications for Our Lady of Peace in San Diego—The Academy of Our Lady of Peace is now accepting ninth grade applications for the 2008-2009 school year. The entrance exam will take place on January 26, 8:00am-12:00noon. You may download the application from our website: www.aol.org. For additional information, please call the Academy at 619-725-9118.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter 2008 International Convention—will be held June 28-30, 2008, in Ontario, California. Come and celebrate 40 years of Ministry with other

Encountered Couples and Families. For more information, go to <http://convention.wwme.org>.

Healing Prayer at St. James Church in Solana Beach—Healing prayer is offered after the 9:00am Mass every Sunday throughout the year. For more information, contact Sera Schmitt at 944-6827.

Women’s Retreat at Mission San Luis Rey in Oceanside—*The Gift and Mystery of Love*—A Women’s Retreat with Fr. Stan Fortuna, CPR, whose inspiring words and music will help us to encounter, be transformed by and become a reflection of the gift and mystery of God’s love in our own lives. Daily Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Stations of the Cross as well as periods of quiet time to pray, reflect and grow in faith. The retreat is scheduled for April 4-6, 2008. The cost is \$210. For more information, contact Judy at 619-884-3829 or salmonja@cox.net.

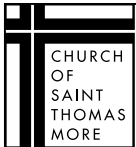
Catholic Cruise to the Mexican Riviera—Come and sail away on a Seven-Night Catholic Mexican Riviera Cruise with Father Herbert Burke, May 25-June 1, 2008, on the Carnival Pride out of Long Beach. Prices begin at \$1,626.92 for two passengers, which includes all port fees and taxes. For further information or to register, contact Doug or Eileen at 860-399-7776 or dpayttc@aol.com.

Quilts for Christmas Project at Mission San Luis Rey—Donate old blue jeans for holiday recovery quilts benefiting soldiers and veterans participating in the Garden Project at Mission San Luis Rey. Start spring cleaning early, clean closets, ask friends, motivate your classroom. Drop-off at the National Historic Landmark, Mission San Luis Rey, 4050 Mission Avenue, Oceanside. The Garden Project offers more than a harvest. It offers an efficient method of emotional recovery and relief from combat-related stress by providing physical activities in the garden and carpentry shop. If you are interested in participating, contact Bob at 866-552-8828 or www.OperationRecovery.org.

Marriage Encounter in San Diego—2007 is winding down. If your relationship is in the doldrums—feeling bored or a little misunderstood, put some Quality Time into your Relationship on a Marriage Encounter Weekend! Good marriages can become great! For more information, call Lesley at 619-449-3987.

National Alliance on Mental Illness—NAMI North Coastal San Diego County is a grassroots, family and consumer self-help support and advocacy organization of families and individuals whose lives have been affected by serious mental illness. For more information, contact www.nami-northcoastal.org or 722-3754.

Speak up now for a child—Help stop the child abuse crisis. San Diego’s abandoned and neglected children desperately need you. Volunteer to become a child advocate. Call Voices for Children at 858-569-2019 or visit www.speakupnow.org.



1450 SOUTH MELROSE DRIVE · OCEANSIDE, CA 92056 · PHONE: 760-758-4100 · FAX: 760-758-4165
 www.stmoside.org · parishoffice@stmoside.org
 Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30-12:00noon and 12:30-4:00pm

Parish Contacts

Updated 08/28/07

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

Pastoral Council Committees

Faith Formation & Evangelization	Rory Griffin 414-3939
Religious Education (Adults).....	Bret Schanzenbach 806-6722
Small Church Communities	Sondra Parks 598-1269
Little Rock Bible Studies	Masako Streling 295-2594
Religious Education (Children)	Kathleen Bell 758-4100 x110
Liturgy of the Word for Children.....	Cathy Meyer 598-7853
Sacramental Preparation	Kathleen Bell 758-4100 x110
Mid. School Youth Ministry	Ron & Louise Briseno 758-4100 x153
High School Youth Ministry.....	Jeff & Gale Gibbons 726-7236
Evangelization	Available
Vocations	Available
RCIA/Adults	Mario Diaz 758-7870
RCIA/Children.....	Jeanette Marriott 434-1818
Liturgy	Available
Altar Linen Care	Marge Gillen 639-1929
Bereavement Facilitator	Sr. Maureen Brown 758-4100 x131
Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs.....	Regina Aulisio 753-7234
Environment & Art	Kathy Quinn 722-7525
Eucharistic Adoration	John O'Donnell 598-6003
Interior Design Team	Pat & Phil Goscinski 732-1414
Liturgical Ministries	Douglas Lynn 758-4100 x140
Liturgical Music.....	Douglas Lynn 758-4100 x140
Wedding Coordinator.....	Geralyn Sandin 940-1553
Marriage & Family Life	Kalei & Paul Mendiola 945-9042
FAMILIA.....	Kalei & Paul Mendiola 945-9042
Family Services	Deacon Tom Goeltz 758-4100 x130
Marriage Preparation	Rev. Michael Ratajczak 758-4100 x100
.....	Deacon Tom Goeltz 758-4100 x130
Parents & Tots	Paul Mendiola 945-9042
Widows & Widowers.....	Helen Kuhn 727-8612
Parish Organizations & Events	Available
Golf Tournament.....	John Murphy 945-9935
Historian	Anne Marshall 727-2668
Knights of Columbus	Tom Dean 476-0431
Library	Chris James 598-5881
Spirited Seniors.....	Stella Leuë 726-3869
.....	Vera Bayliss
Women's Guild.....	Germaine Wilmott 758-9949

Social Ministries	Suzee Irwin 597-2706
Blood Drive	Linda Dicus 726-5081
Bereavement Follow-up Support	Linda Dicus 726-5081
Brother Benno's.....	Deacon Tom & Patt Goeltz 727-8442
Christmas Angel Ministry.....	R.J. Irwin 597-2706
CPR/AED Classes	Phil Goscinski 732-1414
Disability Facilitation	Ann Eriksson 599-7151
Fraternity & Michaelle House	Carmen Tamayo 727-3028
Huggy Buddies Program.....	Gale Gibbons 726-7236
Jail Ministry.....	Rita McCarthy 758-4100 x100
More's Workers.....	Dick Belprez 295-1431
Prayer Request Line.....	Pat Wong 806-1310
.....	Norma Flanagan 630-0180
Project Linus.....	Mary Coxon 599-8760
Pro-Life Activities	Jane Kelleher 724-9658
Sick & Homebound (Eucharist)	Jean McCloskey 643-2363
Sister Parish Program	Jim Dease 598-0889
St. Bonaventure Mission.....	Knights of Columbus 727-6165
Office Support	Henny Jocelyn 758-4100 x100
Adopt-a-Project	Joe Garcia 758-4100 x151
Chair Set-Up.....	Lorraine Doering 758-4100 x102
General Support.....	Henny Jocelyn 758-4100 x100
Kitchen Overseer	DeAnne Gonzales 598-8748
STM Host Program.....	Henny Jocelyn 758-4100 x100

Development Council Committees

Annual Catholic Appeal	Diana Diaz 758-7870
Capital Campaign	Bill Ipsen 723-0402
New Construction	Brian Leahy 598-5697
Parish Membership	Louise Briseno 726-4496
Planned Giving	Chris Smith 758-4100 x120
Publicity/Public Relations.....	Gloria Larson 295-7834
Press Releases.....	Anne Marshall 727-2668
Sacrificial Giving/Tithing.....	Paul Ibbetson 734-1051
Scrip Sales	Henny Jocelyn 726-1177
Stewardship	Chris Smith 758-4100 x120
Vehicle Donations	Henny Jocelyn 758-4100 x100

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor	758-4100 x100	michaelr@stmoside.org
Deacon Tom Goeltz	758-4100 x130 or 727-8442	thomasg@stmoside.org
Rev. Thomas W. Thompson, Pastoral Associate; Hospital Chaplain at Scripps La Jolla, Scripps Green & UCSD Thornton.....	858-945-2251	parishoffice@stmoside.org
Sr. Maureen Brown, Pastoral Associate.....	758-4100 x131	maureenb@stmoside.org
Kathleen Bell, Director of Faith Formation	758-4100 x110	kathleenb@stmoside.org
Gale & Jeff Gibbons, High School Youth Ministers.....	758-4100 x150	jeffg@stmoside.org, galeg@stmoside.org
Ron & Louise Briseno, Middle School Youth Ministers.....	758-4100 x153	ronb@stmoside.org, louiseb@stmoside.org
Douglas Lynn, Director of Music/Coordinator of Liturgical Ministries	758-4100 x140	douglasl@stmoside.org
Kathy Santy, Assistant Music Director	758-4100 x100	kathys@stmoside.org
Chris Smith, Director of Stewardship & Development.....	758-4100 x120	chriss@stmoside.org
Joe Garcia, Director of Maintenance.....	758-4100 x151	joeg@stmoside.org
Henny Jocelyn, Receptionist/Secretary.....	758-4100 x100	hennyj@stmoside.org
Natalie Provinse, Bookkeeper.....	758-4100 x104	nataliep@stmoside.org
Lorraine Doering, Parish Office Technician	758-4100 x102	lorrained@stmoside.org

Patronize Our Advertisers

We wish to thank the many neighborhood merchants who generously support our bulletin with their advertising. Please patronize these merchants and let them know you saw their ad in the St. Thomas More bulletin. We are currently taking new ads. Any business owners are welcome to advertise their