

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

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

March 1, 2009 • First Sunday of Lent

Annual Golf Classic Our Tenth Anniversary!

Friday, May 1, 2009

Golf at Fallbrook Golf Club
 Miniature Golf at *Boomers!*
 Evening Festivities at STM



Flyers with details and registration forms are available at the information table on the Plaza, in the Parish Office, and on the Parish website:
www.stmoside.org/golf

For more information, contact John Murphy
 760-497-9117 or murphy8801@cox.net.

What's Inside

Calendar Highlights.....	2
Mission Statement.....	2
Readings for the Week.....	3
Prayer Lists and Mass Intentions.....	3
Parish Contacts.....	10
<i>Inserts: Catholic Update</i>	

Pastor's Column

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

A Lenten Examination of Conscience

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

1. If I were to die tomorrow, have I had joy? Have I cared? Have I had the best of what was available? Have I had any of what it is all for? Where is God in my life?
2. To what extent do I know the value and place of others in my life? Am I aware of and grateful for the roles others have played in making me, for better or for worse, who and what I am? Can I recognize the decisions of family, friends, or companions that have given me the freedom to make choices? Where is God in my life?
3. Am I capable of sacrificing my own desires, pleasures, longings, for the good of others? Can I see and be thankful for the sacrifices of others for me? Do I require

(Continued on page 2)

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

Music Ministry: Contact Douglas Lynn at 758-4100 x140

Communion for the Homebound/Hospitalized:

Contact Parish Office at 758-4100 x100

Anointing of the Sick: Contact Parish Office

Matrimony:

Contact Parish Office a minimum of nine months in advance

*For further information, call Rev. Michael Ratajczak
at 758-4100 x100 or michaelr@stmoside.org.*

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 or kathleenb@stmoside.org.*

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, see page 10, or call Chris Smith
at 758-4100 x120 or chriss@stmoside.org.*

Pastor's Column (Continued from page 1)

praise for my self-giving, or am I willing to make mine an offering "in secret" solely for the good it can produce? Where is God in my life?

4. Who have I thought I loved? Was my motive self-giving or self-centered? When I hear the words "the joy of loving," do I think of what I can get or what I can give to others? How often have I said, in words or deeds, "No Thanks!" to someone who has said to me, "I want to love you"? Does the Golden Rule have any practical place in my life? When have I last prayed for someone who hurt me; acted kindly toward someone who offended me; desired the good for someone who hates me? Where is God in my life?
5. When I pray the Lord's Prayer, do I take seriously the words of the petition "Forgive us...as we forgive"? Am I willing to forgive others the wrongs they have done to me? Am I willing to ask forgiveness of wrongs I have done to others? Where is God in my life?
6. How open am I to being healed? How open am I to exploring and recognizing and admitting those places in my heart and soul that need healing? Am I humble enough to recognize the role of others in the healing process, or does my ego insist that I "do it all myself"? Where is God in my life?

—Based on Neville Ward and Mitch Albom

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

F. Mike

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 Jim Treat at 760-598-3602.

Can't Get to Mass?

Our Parish has ministers who can bring Holy Communion to anyone who is unable to attend Mass—the homebound, those in the hospital, those in convalescent homes.

For information, please call the Parish Office at 760-758-4100.

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 760-727-2668 or annemarshall@sbcglobal.net.



Readings for the Week Ahead

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

Sunday, March 1 (23)

First Sunday of Lent

Genesis 9:8-15

Psalms 25:4-9

1 Peter 3:18-22

Mark 1:12-15

Monday, March 2 (224)

Leviticus 19:1-2,11-18

Psalms 19:8-10,15

Matthew 25:31-46

Tuesday, March 3 (225)

Katharine Drexel, virgin

Isaiah 55:10-11

Psalms 34:4-7,16-19

Matthew 6:7-15

Wednesday, March 4 (226)

Casimir

Jonah 3:1-10

Psalms 51:3-4,12-13,18-19

Luke 11:29-32

Thursday, March 5 (227)

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

Psalms 138:1-3,7-8

Matthew 7:7c-12

Friday, March 6 (228)

Ezekiel 18:21-28

Psalms 130:1-8

Matthew 5:20-26

Saturday, March 7 (229)

Perpetua and Felicity, martyrs

Deuteronomy 26:16-19

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

Matthew 5:43-48

Sunday, March 8 (26)

Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 22:1-2,9a,10-13,15-18

Psalms 116:10,15-19

Romans 8:31b-34

Mark 9:2-10

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 28, 5:00pm
Tom Lavey ☩

Sunday, March 1, 8:30am
Filip Jorjevic ☩

Sunday, March 1, 10:30am
Joe Coccaro ☩

Monday, March 2, 7:00pm
For the Youth of the Parish

Tuesday, March 3, 8:15am
Italino Norelli ☩

Wednesday, March 4, 8:15am
Barbara Foster ☩

Wednesday, March 4, 9:30am
Bonnie Nelson
Aegis

Thursday, March 5, 8:15am
Judith Nichols ☩

Friday, March 6, 8:15am
Kathy Stewart ☩

Saturday, March 7, 5:00pm
Jim Tutino ☩

Sunday, March 8, 8:30am
Owen Fredette ☩

Sunday, March 8, 10:30am
Missa pro Populo

Prayer List

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

Mary Alexander
Mary Baker
Patricia Barbour
Cindra Bell
Tom Belprez
Beatrice Brooks & Family
Janet Brown
Steve Brown
Irene Caligiuri
Paul Cassidy
B.J. Coberg
Dolly Cole
James Coleman
Pat Coley
The Comstock Family
Thomas Cornwell & Family
Helen Corson
Margie Daniels & Family
Mercedes Dea
Cecilia DeSimone
Linda Dossman
Kate Egan
The Eklem Family
Kathryn Ernst
The Fiore Family
Peggy Fischer
Betty Fisk
Larry Fisk
The Fox Family
Kathryn Franklin
The Fredette Family
Bob Godley
Rick Gonzalez
Paula Gurrera
Anita Hage
Mary Hallahan
Susan Hallahan
The Harker Family
Rita Harnacker
Dave & Cynthia Henk
Barry Henwood
Cynthia Horner
Bernie & Ginny Jaeger
Sue Johnston
Joan Jones
Colleen Kaup
Paul Kennedy
Debbie Kinny
George Kleekamp
Willis Koffroth
Sr. Anne Kremenik
Lillian Lachance
The Lamelin Family
The Layden & Bermudez Families
Brandon LeBlanc
Paul & Brenda Leue
Cassandra Loretto
Lauren Loretto
Jackie Lynn
James MacArthur
Ken Mauro
Shirley McAllister
Ruth McClelland
Bob McWilliams
Carol Michael
The Middlebrooks Family
Carroll Tom & Nona Miller
Nancy Moore

Margie Myers
R. Northrup
Helen O'Connell
Rusty Pato
Lupe Casas Pelletier
Helen Pingtella
Anne Post
Otila Quiroz
Janet Raiman
Margo Redford
Deana Reynolds
Dort Riley
Sr. Loyola Romey
Dorothy Rouse
Rose Rowland
The Russo Family
Sr. Elizabeth Shields
Nadine Slemmer
Nick Soltau
Ed Sox
Dorothy and Ray Staehr
Carl Streling
Steve Toth
Lisa & Kyle Valpoon
Arnie Velasco
Dominic Vienna, Jr.
Vanessa Vitiello-Koble
Kevin Watson-Graff
Betty Wehner
Marilyn Wesel
John Whitton
The Wolfe Family
Stevan Zygutis

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:

1st Lt. Jeffrey Bauer, USMC
Pfc John Brandone
Sgt. Jason Cohick,
Air Force Reserve
Mst. Sgt. Shellie Cohick,
Air Force
Lance Corporal Brandon Doyle,
USMC
Staff Sgt. Julian Fyffe, USMC
MSGT Steve Gallegos, USMC
Col. Kathleen Henderson
Med. Staff Sgt. Jana Alexander
Madrid, USAF
Pvt. 2 Jess Phillips, US Army
Spec. Jared Ratzlaff, US Army
Julian Torres, USMC
Maj. Scott Wadle, USMC

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

CHILDREN'S EASTER CHOIR

Liturgy & Music

Page 6

**Faithful Families:
Our Parish Mission**

Faith Formation

Page 7

The Way of the Cross

Christian Stewardship

Page 8

Calendar Highlights

Also check the Parish website (www.stmoside.org) for complete calendar information.

The Week Ahead

- Mar 1 Liturgy of the Word for Children at 8:30am and 10:30am Masses
- Mar 1 New Member Reception
- Mar 1 High School RE.A.CH
- Mar 6 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- Mar 6 Fish Dinner
- Mar 6 Stations of the Cross

The Month Ahead

- Mar 8 Liturgy of the Word for Children at 8:30am Mass
- Mar 8 RE.A.CH Classes at Church (including HS)
- Mar 9 Women's Guild Luncheon Meeting
- Mar 15 Lenten Reconciliation Service
- Mar 15 High School RE.A.CH
- Mar 19 Women's Guild Day of Recollection
- Mar 21-22 Women's Guild Bake Sale
- Mar 22 RE.A.CH Classes at Church (including HS)
- Mar 21-28 Volunteer Team Working in New Orleans
- Mar 26 Spirited Seniors Bus Trip
- Mar 29-30 Parish Mission: Faithful Families

The Year Ahead

- Apr 12 Easter Sunday—Masses at 6:30, 8:30, 10:30am
- Apr 20 Women's Guild Luncheon Meeting
- Apr 26 Spring Sing Invitational Choral Festival Concert
- May 1 STM Tenth Annual Golf Classic

Welcome to Newly Registered Parishioners

Preston & Theresa Howell

In Memoriam

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:



Karen Margaret Fox, who died last week. Her Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Friday, March 6, at 10:30am at St. Thomas More. Please keep her family in your prayers.

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

Women's Guild News

Board Meeting—Monday, March 3, at Germaine Wilmott's home to discuss March 9 meeting and Day of Recollection. Please try to attend. RSVP to Germaine Wilmott at 760-758-9949.

Luncheon Meeting—Monday, March 9, at 11:00am in the lower level of the Parish Center. Lunch will be served, and the cost is \$7 per person. After lunch, Douglas Lynn, our Director of Music, will speak to us about the handbell choir! RSVP to Mary Vernaci at 760-727-2318 or Germaine Wilmott at 760-758-9949.

Day of Recollection—Thursday, March 19, 9:00am-2:30pm. Men and women are welcome to join us. Our former pastor Rev. Peter McGuine will be conducting this day of reflection in the upper level of the Parish Center. Join us on our Lenten journey, including Mass, talks, lunch, and Stations of the Cross. Please reserve your spot by March 12 by completing the registration form, along with your check for \$12 made out to the STM Women's Guild, and returning both to the Parish Office, Box 35. For more information, contact Pat Wong at 760-806-1310 or Germaine Wilmott at 760-758-9949.

STM Scrip News

Thank you to all who use the Scrip Program!

In order for St. Thomas More to benefit from your shopping at Ralphs, Food4Less, and Albertsons you must update your cards. Please stop by the Scrip table to find out how, or call Theresa Goeltz at 760-453-2876.

Scrip is sold after weekend Masses and on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00-10:00am in the Parish Office.

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

Albertson's Card #(11 digits) _____

Ralph's Card—Please visit Scrip table for flyer.

Please send me a Food 4 Less Card

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Please place completed form in the collection basket or return it to the \$CRIP table after weekend Masses or the Parish Office during the week. Thank you!

Update on New Orleans Ministry

We now have 20 folks who are confirmed or very seriously interested in joining forces for good in New Orleans from March 21-28.

The group can be up to 25 people, so if the Holy Spirit is nagging your heart, act now! The absolute deadline for signing up is Monday, March 2.

Call Sr. Maureen at 760-758-4100 x131.

There will be a special blessing of these volunteers who will represent our Parish at the 5:00pm Mass on March 7. Please keep them all in your prayers.

Thank you for your generous monetary donations. In this way you are also participating in being the helping hands of Christ to the people of New Orleans. To date, we have received \$2,945. An additional donation of \$1,500 was made by a donating agency outside of the Parish to cover the price of the vans for our volunteers.

In a special way, let us remember the people of our Sister Parish, St. Peter Claver, as they continue their recovery process.

Minimum Time, Maximum Reward

The Pastoral Council is looking for chairpersons for two of its ministries, Marriage & Family Life and Parish Organizations & Events (PO&E).

The purpose of the Marriage & Family Life ministry is to achieve a more meaningful expression of Catholic belief by preserving and fostering the dignity and sacred value of the family.

The goal of PO&E is to create within our Parish family an environment of belonging and interdependence and extend this atmosphere of welcome and support to the surrounding community.

Chairpersons sit on the Pastoral Council and coordinate with the committees under each ministry to further St. Thomas More's mission to worship God, teach and live the Gospel, and serve God's people in word and deed.

Please contact Doug D'Agrosa (619-980-7400) or Chris Smith (760-758-4100 x120) to discuss the opportunity.

No Home or Food for Your Family—Just Imagine!

Our ministry answers the call by Jesus to feed the hungry in our time and neighborhood. The North County Solutions for Change women and children's shelter needs volunteers for meal preparation, servers, and donations (food and paper goods). Any help you can provide is most welcome!

Many thanks to those who have stepped up to supply six of the monthly dinners!

These dates are still available for dinner adoption:

June 28

August 23

September 27

November 29

December 27



Contact: Paul & Kalei Mendiola at 760-945-9042 or kaleiann@sbcglobal.net.

2009 Annual Catholic Appeal Now Underway!

St. Thomas More's "Fair Share": \$34,000

Pledge Total to Date: \$5,075

Households Responding: 37

Average Gift per Household: \$137.16

The ACA provides funding to programs vital for our diocesan mission:

...to teach through instruction in the faith: Youth and Young Adult Ministry; Catholic Schools; Adult Faith Formation; Evangelization and Catechesis

...to sanctify through priestly ministries: Vocations to the Priesthood; St. Francis Center in San Diego; Continuing Education for Priests

...to serve through Catholic Charities: Emergency, Food and Shelter; Pregnancy, Parenting and Adoption Services; Senior Citizen Programs; Family and Individual Counseling; Immigration and Refugee Services

Every registered household is receiving a letter with the ACA brochure and donation form. You are asked to make your pledge/gift by completing the pledge envelope. It can be returned in the mail, at the Parish Office, or in the Offertory Collection anytime during the Season of Lent. Please be as generous as you can in these difficult economic times.

Remember, no payment is needed now. You may pay your pledge over 10 months or all at one time with your Visa or MasterCard or Debit Card.

All money raised over our assessed amount of \$34,000 will be returned to the Parish and will be directed toward the Operations Budget.

Your support is greatly appreciated!

—Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor

Get on the Bus Update



Watch the bulletin in the next few weeks for an announcement of a meeting here at St. Thomas More for ongoing planning.

An envelope will be attached to our bulletin the weekend of March 7-8, along with a flier that will list the items needed for the children and young adults traveling to see their moms in prison.

For further information or volunteering, contact Vanessa at 858-518-5991

In the meantime let us keep these families in our prayers.

Spirited Seniors' Bus Trip to Getty Villa

There are still seats available for this day trip to the Getty Villa in Malibu on Thursday, March 26, leaving at 7:30am from the Parish parking lot and returning at 4:00pm. Cost of \$30 includes transportation, driver gratuity, and breakfast goodies. Lunch is on your own. Checks should be made to *STM Spirited Seniors* with memo *Getty Villa Trip* and may be put in the offertory collection or brought to the Parish Office. For more information, contact Joyce Frink at 760-724-8091.

Monday Night Mass

Join us
March 2 at 7:00pm for
Monday Night Mass

(Upper Level of the Parish Center)

Fr. Joseph Nguyen
from the Diocese of San Diego
will be celebrating this youth-led Mass

"Stand Up for Kids," a homeless teen day shelter in Oceanside, is in need of water bottles or boxes of juice bags.

If everyone could bring one box or case,
it would be greatly appreciated.

For more information please contact Ron Briseno at
760-758-4100 x153 or ronb@stmoside.org

Annual Brother Benno Food Drive

Deacon Tom (and others) will have trucks ready in the parking lot after all Masses on March 14-15 to receive non-perishable food items for Brother Benno's. This is our once-a-year food drive for Brother Benno's, and your



wonderful generosity in the past has helped us fill two to three pickup trucks with much needed food items. Brother Benno's not only runs a soup kitchen, they also supplement the food budget for low income families. Please continue to be **Unbelievably Generous Loveable You** [UGLY].

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

is at

MONDAY NIGHT MASS

7:00pm • MARCH 2

CLOSE MOMENT AND SNACKS FOLLOWING MASS

Call Gale 726-7263 for more info

Knights of Columbus News

Fish Dinners Every Friday During Lent

5:30-6:30pm

Please join us!

Liturgy & Music

Worship God

Douglas Lynn
Director of Music/Coordinator of Liturgical Ministries
douglasl@stmoside.org; 760-758-4100 x140



LENT

A Sense of the Season

The word Lent means springtime. This word comes from the same root as lengthen. Daytime lengthens during Lent. The northern hemisphere turns toward the sun, the source of life, and winter turns into spring. In Hebrew, the word for repentance is the same as the word that means to turn, like the turning of the earth to the sun, like the turning of the soil before planting.

“Even now, says the Lord, turn to me.” (Joel 2:12) The word sin means separation. We are called to turn from our separate selves, from our sin, to come together in community. Self-denial is the way we express our repentance. In the lengthening brightness from Ash Wednesday until Holy Thursday afternoon, our holy Lent, we turn to God as our source of life.

Self-denial is threefold, advises Matthew. We pray: “Go to your room, close your door, and pray to your Father in private.” We fast: “No one must see you are fasting but your Father.” We give alms: “Keep your deeds of mercy secret, and your Father who sees in secret will repay you.” Through the Lenten exercise of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we spring-clean our lives, sharpen our senses, put tomorrow in its place, and treasure the day at hand.

Why are there forty days in Lent? It took forty days for sinfulness to drown in the flood before a new creation could inherit the earth. It took forty years for the generation of slaves to die before the freeborn could enter the promised land. For forty days Moses and Elijah and Jesus fasted and prayed to prepare themselves for a life’s work.

We keep Lent together. We put aside our business-as-usual to support each other in prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. We turn to God to enlighten us and purify us throughout the lengthening brightness of our holy season of Lent.

“For now is the acceptable time! Now is the day of salvation!”

—Peter Mazar, LTP

Music Ministry Next Week

MARCH 2

7:00pm Mass

MNM Music Team

MARCH 7/8

5:00pm Mass

Cantor

8:30am Mass

Cantor

10:30am Mass

Cantor

CHILDREN’S EASTER CHOIR ANNOUNCED!!!

St. Thomas More’s Children’s Choir returns for a special engagement on Easter Sunday, at the 10:30am Mass.

All children, grades 2-6 are invited to sing with the Children’s Easter Choir.

They will be singing by themselves and with the other choirs.

REHEARSALS

Wednesdays, 5:00-6:15pm

March 18

March 25

April 1

**April 8 — 7:00-7:30pm
(with the Combined Choirs)**

AT MASS

**Easter Morning, April 12
10:30am Mass**

JOIN US!!!

SAVE THE DATE!

Spring Sing! Invitational Choral Festival

St. Thomas More Adult Choir
and friends...

Sunday, April 26 at 4:00pm



“...so that
they may be
one...”
John 17:11

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

FRIDAY, MARCH 6

**FRIDAY
OF THE FIRST WEEK OF LENT**

8:45am - 7:30pm

INTENTION FOR THE DAY

That Lent may be a time of
conversion and renewal for us.

Faith Formation

Teach and Live the Gospel

Kathleen Bell
 Director of Faith Formation
 kathleenb@stmoside.org; 760-758-4100 x110



Coming in **4** weeks!

Faithful Families Our Parish Mission

March 29 & 30, 7:00-9:00pm
 Sunday & Monday Sessions

Peanut Butter and Jelly Update



2009 GOAL: 365 jars
 TOTAL to date: 150 jars
 If you're worried about the peanut butter,
 there's no problem with jelly!

Fr. Mike's (and friends) Bookies

The Gift of the Red Bird

Sr. Maureen Brown

Wednesday, March 4
 9:00am or 7:00pm

You are invited to enjoy, *Gift of the Red Bird: The Story of a Divine Encounter* by Paula D'Arcy, which is next in the series of our Parish Book Club on March 4 at 9:00am or 7:00pm.

It is a story full hope, a hope we can claim even when we are challenged by great hardships in life. Paula helps us get in touch with our own spiritual journey and the simple and profound ways that help us move from having an image of God to experiencing God's loving and personal presence in our lives.

There is a Guide for Reflection on page 143 of the book. You are invited to savor one question from each chapter for your own deepening and for our sharing together in our common journey of faith.

If you have ever asked yourself if Catholic teaching can be

- ♦ relevant,
 - ♦ funny,
 - ♦ Meaningful and inspiring,
- ask no more.**

The *Faithful Families* Parish Mission

will inspire you spiritually and practically, regardless of whether you're young or old, married or single, liberal or conservative!



Chris Muglia & Family
 Renowned Musician & Speaker



Mary Moore
 Speaker & Nationally Syndicated Columnist



Deacon Mitch Rennix
 Men's Ministry Workshop Leader

Ten Good Reasons To Go To Mass

Reason #6:

We need to talk to God.

When we go to Mass, we speak to God when we sing, when we join in the communal responses and prayers, and when we pour out our personal prayers to God from the depths of our hearts. During the Mass, we have the opportunity to ask God for what we need, to tell God we will do what God wants us to do, and to thank God for the many blessings he has bestowed upon us.

Stewardship & Development

Serve God's People

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

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP The Way of the Cross

"I didn't realize what I was getting into." That is a statement we sometimes make when we find it necessary to back out or turn away from a certain responsibility we have accepted ~ only to find out it wasn't all we'd expected.

This might have been a position to chair a committee at our child's school, or a ministerial position at church. Maybe we accepted thinking this would be an honor, but didn't consider the reality of the sacrifice that would be necessary.

Months later, we resign after realizing how much work was involved, with very little thanks and no honor. (Interesting that this could also fit the description of a mother who has just endured a very difficult pregnancy, followed by a painful birth and a baby with colic! And no one to help or understand; however, mothers don't resign.)

Lent offers us a solid opportunity to honestly and seriously rethink our commitment to follow Jesus and be good Christian stewards of our time and talents.

"My way," Jesus says, "requires you to deny yourself and carry a cross. Are you sure you want to come with me?"

Self-denial does not mean treating ourselves like dirt. Rather it means answering the call of Jesus no matter how difficult it appears. Discipline and self sacrifice can lead to very rewarding results ~ from within ~ that cannot be duplicated by anything this world has to offer.



We are to answer the call of Jesus even when it is not what we had in mind for our lives. We are to be so committed to Christ that we see Him as the bright light that He is, and follow His call, even though it requires sacrifice and a difficult path.

And we are called to do our giving quietly and without expecting, seeking, or hoping for recognition. God is the

only one that counts and God knows all that we do in His name.

- Lent is a good time to reflect upon all that God has given us.
- Lent is a time for occasionally putting down the television clicker ~ really ~ to read scripture or pray in silence.
- Lent is a time to remember that with God, there is no clock. So leave your watch at home when you come to Mass. Remember that God doesn't put a timer on His availability.
- Lent is a time to speak kindly of others and not to place blame.
- Lent is a time to remember that time is made holy (or unholy) by how we use it, either to the glory of God or to the glory of ourselves.
- Lent is a time to remember that we can never hide from God.

God is not *only* available to us one hour a week.

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.



**"Did You Know?" Donation Update
 February 2009
 \$8,167.00**

Collection for Week of: February 21/22, 2009

Number of Registered Households:		992
Offertory*	\$	10,664.36
Offertory (Loose Collection)		911.00
Children's envelopes		1.50
Total	\$	11,576.86

(* Offertory Envelopes, Credit Card withdrawals, Automatic Checking or Savings Account Deductions)

Special thanks to our young donors using the Children's offertory envelopes for their Christian Stewardship efforts.

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, MC, or Discover)
- ♦ 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

News from the Larger Church

Meshuggah-Nuns! The Ecumenical “Nonsense” Musical at Patio Playhouse in Escondido—Through March 29, Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00pm, Sundays at 2:00pm. For more information, call the box office at 760-746-6669.

Lenten Day of Recollection at Prince of Peace Abbey in Oceanside—Tuesday, March 3, 9:00am-2:00pm. Includes conferences, reconciliation, Mass, and lunch. For reservations, call Jan Feiner at 760-603-9103.

The Prodigal Son in Art Presentation at the University of San Diego—Thursday, March 5, 7:00-8:30pm at Salomon Hall, Bishop Maher Hall, USD. The prodigal son of Luke’s gospel is one of the most powerful images of God’s love and mercy. Guided by art historian Anne Hoehn, we will explore this story through its various artistic depictions. For more information, contact 619-260-4784 or ccs@sandiego.edu.

North County Coastal Regional Young Adult Group Kick Off Mass and Dinner in Vista—Sunday, March 8, at 5:00pm at St. Francis Parish, 525 Vista Way, Vista. Dinner to follow at Colimas Restaurant (1850 Hacienda Drive, Vista). Visit www.yamsd.org for a calendar of upcoming events. For more information, contact Carrie at cgiebel@diocese-sdiego.org or 858-490-8260.

Michael Cumbie to Present Lenten Mission in San Marcos—Monday, March 9, through Thursday, March 12, at St. Mark Parish in San Marcos. “Conversion—The Never-Ending Story,” will be the theme. Morning or evening sessions. For more information, contact 760-744-1540.

Vocation Retreat Day for Young Women in San Diego—Sunday, March 15, 9:00am-4:00pm at Nazareth House, 6333 Rancho Mission Rd, San Diego. For more information, contact Sr. Margaret at 619-563-0480 or Sr. Fintan at 310-216-8170.

Mainly Mozart Concert Series in Carlsbad—Sunday, March 22, 2:00pm, at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 6628 Santa Isabel St., Carlsbad. Featuring Jennifer Frautschi, violin, Ronald Thomas, cello, and Pedja Muzijevic, piano, performing Mozart’s Sonata for Violin and Piano in G, K. 379; Mendelssohn’s Piano Trio No. 2 in C minor, Op. 66; and Schumann’s Adagio and Allegro for Cello and Piano. For more information, contact www.mainlymozart.com or 619-239-0100 x2.

Healing Weekend Retreat in Temecula—There will be a Rachel’s Vineyard Healing Weekend Retreat March 27-29 hosted by *A Time for Mercy/Rachel’s Vineyard* of Temecula. This retreat is an opportunity for any woman or man who has struggled with the emotional and spiritual pain of abortion. The retreat and registration are strictly private. All inquiries are answered *confidentially*. More information about the retreat can be obtained by calling Dolores at 951-325-7702 or by e-mail at RVTemecula@msn.com. More information about Post-Abortion Syndrome (PAS) and Rachel’s Vineyard can be found at www.rachelsvineyard.org.

St. Joseph Academy Twelfth Annual Spring Gala & Auction in Escondido—Saturday, April 25, at the California Center for the Arts in Escondido. St. Joseph Academy is located in San Marcos (formerly Sierra Madre Academy). Call John Mitchell 760-579-1601 for auction donor forms, and call the school office 760-305-8505 for tickets to the event.

Old Mission Montessori Accepting Applications in Oceanside—Mission San Luis Rey Parish school is accepting applications for preschool through eighth grade for the 2009-2010 school year. For more information, contact 760-757-3232 or www.omms.org.

St. Francis School Accepting Applications—St. Francis of Assisi Parish School is accepting applications for the 2009-2010 school year. We have a fully licensed preschool and are an accredited kindergarten through eighth grade school. Located in Vista just off the Highway 78, St. Francis School provides a strong Catholic religious education program, advanced classes, extracurricular activities, competitive school sports program, and after-school care. For more information, contact www.sfs-vista.org or 760-630-7960.

Pilgrimage to Holy Land—Starting May 25 with Sr. Margaret Kelly, OP, the Director of Religious Education at Mission San Diego de Alcalá. Package includes airfare from San Diego, 4-star hotels (double occupancy), daily Mass, breakfast and dinner daily, all entrance fees and admission charges. For more information, contact Sr. Margaret at 619-624-0900.



Spring Cleaning? Call Fr. Joe’s Villages—Did you know that every week, St. Vincent de Paul Village is in your parish area to pick up usable discards from you and your neighbors? Those items are needed by Father Joe to assist him in helping over 3,400 neighbors in need each day. You can call 1-888-FatherJoe (1-888-328-4375) to arrange a free pickup and receive a tax deductible receipt (please call at least one week in advance) or donate online at www.neighbor.org.

Church of the Resurrection Catholic Gift Shop in Escondido—Open Tuesday-Friday, 9:00am-5:00pm and before and after Masses on the weekends. 1445 Conway Drive, Escondido. For more information, contact 760-747-2322.

Pro-Life News

Ultrasound Image Saves an Unborn Child’s Life

St. Paul, MN (CNS)—Bobbie Hallman was attempting to carry out a simple task—make a poster from an ultrasound image. She ended up saving the life of an unborn child. The drama unfolded at a local print shop. She had agreed to make several posters for use in the Prayer Service for Life at the Cathedral of St. Paul on January 22, which was the 36th anniversary of the Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion. Hallman had brought in a handful of small ultrasound pictures. She showed them to a woman working behind the counter and asked for help making the posters. As she would soon discover, the woman was struggling with an unplanned pregnancy. The woman’s eyes welled up and she walked away, but returned to the counter and continued looking at the pictures with Hallman. “She looked at them...and she said, ‘I can’t abort this baby,’” Hallman said. “She said, ‘I was thinking about aborting this baby. I thought it was just tissue. And, look at this.’ She was pointing to the fingers and the eyes.”

—*The Southern Cross, February 2009*



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 02/15/09

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)..... Wayne Zych 598-9244
- 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
- Young Adult Ministry..... Joanna Mueller 726-5644
- Evangelization..... Available
- Vocations Deacon Tom & Patt Goeltz 758-4100 x130
- 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 Aulizio 295-5530
- Environment & Art Kathy Quinn 722-7525
- Eucharistic Adoration John O’Donnell 598-6003
- Interior Design Team Pat & Phil Goscieski 732-1414
- Liturgical Ministries..... Douglas Lynn 758-4100 x140
- Liturgical Music..... Douglas Lynn 758-4100 x140

- Marriage & Family Life** **Available**
- 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 Classic..... John Murphy 945-9935
- Historian..... Anne Marshall 727-2668
- Knights of Columbus John O’Donnell 598-6003
- Library Chris James 598-5881
- Spirited Seniors..... Stella Leu  726-3869
- Judy & Jerry Buoniconti 758-5113
- 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
- Congregations for Civic Action... Sr. Maureen Brown 758-4100 x131
- CPR/AED Classes..... Phil Goscieski 732-1414
- Disability Facilitation Ann Erikson 599-7151
- Fraternity & Michaelle House..... Carmen Tamayo 591-3554
- Huggy Buddies Program..... Gale Gibbons 726-7236
- Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice
- Sr. Maureen Brown 758-4100 x131
- Interfaith Shelter Network Frank Coxon 599-8760
- 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 822-7041
- Sick & Homebound (*Eucharist*) Jean McCloskey 643-2363
- Sister Parish Program..... Sr. Maureen Brown, 758-4100 x131
- St. Bonaventure Mission..... Knights of Columbus 598-6003
- Office Support**..... **Henny Jocelyn 758-4100 x100**
- 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..... Flora Fallone 758-4100 x100
- Capital Campaign Bill Ipsen 723-0402
- New Construction Brian Leahey 598-5697
- Parish Membership Louise Briseno 726-4496
- Planned Giving Chris Smith 758-4100 x120
- Publicity/Public Relations..... Anne Marshall 727-2668
- Sacrificial Giving/Tithing Paul Ibbetson 734-1051
- Scrip Sales Theresa Goeltz 453-2876
- 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
- 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
- Stacey Griffin, Faith Formation Office Assistant..... 758-4100 x110 staceyg@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

Thank you to our advertisers! Please patronize these merchants and let them know you saw their ad in the St. Thomas More bulletin. Any business owners are welcome to advertise their services. Please call Chris McAdams of C & M Publications at 951-683-0608. Thank you.

