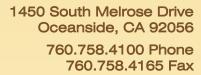
Church of St. Thomas More



A Roman Catholic Parish in the Diocese of San Diego

Spirituality † Tradition † Community



www.stmoside.org parishoffice@stmoside.org

Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor Deacon Thomas A. Goeltz

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

Mass Schedule Saturday at 5:00pm Sunday at 8:30am and 10:30am Tuesday-Friday at 8:15am

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

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



January 17, 2010 • Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Pastor's Column

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

This Is It!

This weekend, Bill Ipsen, our Capital Campaign Chairperson, is speaking before all the Masses to update us on the success of the *Our Journey Into the Future*... *Together* Campaign.

We are ending Phase I and beginning Phase II of the Campaign which will bring us to the actual construction of our permanent Church. "This Is It!"

All of the details, statistics, and specifics of Phase I and the projections for Phase II are in Bill's talk which is included in today's Bulletin. Please take time to read his talk and reflect upon all the information it contains. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me or Chris Smith, our Director of Stewardship and Development. We will be more than happy to answer any questions.

"This Is It!" We are now so close. The journey has been a long one. Some of you have been on part of the journey, some of you have been on the entire journey—almost 25 years—from Masses

in your homes, to the mortuary, to a high school gym, to the storefront, and now to our 15-acre campus in our wonderful 22,500 square foot Parish Center.

For the last five years, in the midst of our continuing the mission and ministry of Jesus, we have focused, in a very concerted way, on the building of our permanent Church. We have made remarkable progress! "This Is It!"

We have overcome many obstacles, and have fulfilled many requirements. We have our architect, and we have the conceptual design of the Church. We have our liturgical consultant and we have, with the help of our Parish Interior Design Team, completed the liturgical program which is our road map that will be used for the design of the interior of the Church along with all the furnishings. "This Is It!"

We presently have \$3.2 million on deposit with the Diocese. The Diocese has taken notice of our efforts and has provided us with a (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;

watch bulletin for holydays

Rite of Reconciliation (Confession):

Saturday from 4:00-4:30pm (or by appointment)

Eucharistic Adoration: Monday-Friday, 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: 8:30am 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 our 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)

golden opportunity. The debt/service ratio formula for securing a loan will not be used. If this requirement were to still be in place for us, it would be years before we would be able to build.

We will be able to consolidate any remaining present debt on our Parish Center into our new loan to build the Church. We will not have to pay off this loan before securing a new one.

Finally, we will be able to borrow all that we need to build out the Church fully, all at the same time—with the Daily Chapel and the Memorial Gardens.

We have only one requirement remaining—we need to have \$5 million on deposit with the Diocese. The Diocese is doing all that it can to help us to "seize the day" and build in this present economy. Estimates are that we could save up to \$1 million in construction costs. "This Is It!"

So we now begin Phase II of *Our Journey Into the Future* . . . *Together*. "This Is It!"

Please take time to prayerfully reflect upon Bill's talk, and on all the materials that are on their way to your home via mail.

My prayer is that every Parish household will join this effort and will do what you are able through a new pledge or gift. We are already off to a great start with Phase II of *Our Journey Into the Future* . . . *Together*, and raising this \$2 million in order to secure our loan will not be difficult. Together we will do it. "This Is It!"

Oh, by the way, did I tell you: "This Is It!"? Yes, "This Is It!"



Celebration of the Eucharist During the Flu Season

Several people have approached me about the need to take special precautions regarding human contact during the Liturgy in the flu season.

Everyone is reminded that the "holding of hands" during the Lord's Prayer is not a requirement. It has always been an option for the members of the assembly. The sign of peace can be given in a variety of ways: the handshake, a hug, or a bow to the people around you. During Communion, drinking the Precious Blood from the common Chalice has always been an option for the members of the assembly.

We will continue to do what we do, but I would ask that everyone simply use common sense.

If you have any kind of cold or flu symptoms, you may avoid holding hands during the Our Father. Instead, raise and open your hands in the "prayer position." At the Sign of Peace, you may refrain from the handshake. Instead give a gentle, respectful bow to the people around you. During Communion, you may choose to refrain from sharing in the Cup.

Actually, these options are open to all members of the assembly at all times, not just during the flu season.

I ask that all members of the assembly be respectful in the various choices that individuals will make in regard to these liturgical options.

Thank You!—Rev. Michael Ratajczak

Readings for the Week Ahead

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

Sunday, January 17 (66)

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalm 96:1-3,7-10

1 Corinthians 12:4-11

John 2:1-11

Monday, January 18 (311) 1 Samuel 15:16-23

Psalm 50:8-9,16-17,21,23

Mark 2:18-22

Tuesday, January 19 (312)

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalm 89:20-22,27-28

Mark 2:23-28

Wednesday, January 20 (313)

Fabian, pope, martyr; Sebastian, martyr

1 Samuel 17:32-33,37,40-51

Psalm 144:1b,2,9-10

Mark 3:1-6

Thursday, January 21 (314)

Agnes, virgin, martyr 1 Samuel 18:6-9;19:1-7

Psalm 56:2-3,9-13 Mark 3:7-12

Friday, January 22 (315)

Vincent, deacon, martyr 1 Samuel 24:3-21

Psalm 57:2-4,6,11

Mark 3:13-19

Saturday, January 23 (316)

2 Samuel 1:1-4,11-12,19,23-27

Psalm 80:2-3,5-7

Mark 3:20-21

Sunday, January 24 (69)

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Nehemiah 8:2-4a,5-6,8-10

Psalm 19:8-10.15

1 Corinthians 12:12-30

Luke 1:1-4;4:14-21

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 16, 5:00pm Bridget Nieto T

Sunday, January 17, 8:30am Dutch Welsh 🕏

Sunday, January 17, 10:30am Joe Coccaro 🕆

Monday, January 18, 8:15am Thomas Moriarty &

Tuesday, January 19, 8:15am Josephine & Bartholomeo DeCoro ♥

Wednesday, January 20, 8:15am Peg Comstock

Wednesday, January 20, 9:30am Louis Gonzalez Emeritus at Carlsbad

Thursday, January 21, 8:15am Rosita Leal 🕆

Friday, January 22, 8:15am Lilly Tomlinson ₽

Saturday, January 23, 5:00pm Jim Tutino 1

Sunday, January 24, 8:30am Eleanor Lape T

Sunday, January 24, 10:30am Mary Norelli ♥

Prayer List

Call 760-758-4100 x102 to add a name for four weeks.

Sandra Andrews Nancy Aquilera Mary Baker Maria V. Balli Patricia Barbour Cdr. Thomas Bartholomew, USN (Ret.) John Bennici Regina Bentz George "Whitey" Betus Bruce Bousquet Beatrice Brooks & Family Monica Broussard Janet Brown Roseanne Burg Herman Calandro Shelby Campbell Claudia Caplinger Paul Cipowski Marilyn Clarke James Coleman Chelena Craine

The D'Acosta & Moon Families Karen Flaharty Daley Margie Daniels & Family Cecilia DeSimone Linda Dossman Chris Dumelle Kathryn Ernst The Fiore Family Peggy & Jack Fischer Kenneth Fisken Ryan Flum Kathryn Franklin Joe Freire James Galagher

Maribel & Marcelino Gil Bob Godley Rick González Eileen Gough Robert K. Gray Rosemary Haeffelin Anita Hage Susan Hallahan The Harker Family

Carmen Garcia

The Gavin Family

Rita Harnacker Marge Heath Lilian Hills Cvnthia Horner Dorothy Jensen Sue Johnston Joan Jones Darleen Kelch Paul Kennedy

Debbie Kinney George Kleekamp Sr. Anne Kremenik

Helen Kuhn Lillian Lachance The Lamelin Family Bernie Lanzrath

Rick Laver Brandon LeBlanc Ceil Lettis Dave & Stella Leue

Cassandra Loretto Lauren Loretto James MacArthur Brandi Madrid Irene Martinelli Helen McCullough

Tom McGeary Bob McWilliams Carol Michael Howard Montgomery Nancy Moore Margie Myers The Nolberto Navarro Family R. Northrup Helen O'Connell

The O'Malley Family The Pato Family Lupe Casas Pelletier Helen Pingtella Anne Post Otila Quiroz Janet Raiman

Isabel Ramirez & Family Virginia Regula Dort Riley Sr. Loyola Romey Dorothy Rouse Rose Rowland The Russo Family Sandie Sanchez & Family

Nancy Scali Freda Schweitzer Richard Sikora Jeanne Sisson Nick Soltau Ed Sox Gilda Spiegl The Staehr Family Joan Stringer Maria Surmenidis Ms. Tammy Diana Thompson Stephen Toth, Jr. Arnie Velasco

The Verdusco & Wood Families Dominic Vienna, Jr. Vanessa Vitiello-Koble Kevin Watson-Graff Ed Wesel Marilyn Wesel Terry Westlake John Whitton

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. Capt. Sean Barnes, USAF 1st Lt. Jeffrey Bauer, USMC Pfc John Brandone Lance Corporal Brandon Doyle, USMC St Sgt Joseph Duffy, USAF MSGT Steve Gallegos, USMC Pvt. 2 Jess Phillips, US Army PVT2 Tyler Timmerman, U.S. Army Julian Torres, USMC LT Billy Turley, USN

Corporal Jeffery Lee Wilcox,

USMC

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

Calendar Highlights

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

The Week Ahead

Liturgy of the Word for Jan 17 Children at 8:30am Mass Jan 17 RE.A.CH Classes at Church (but not high school) Jan 18 Martin Luther King Day Mass at 8:15am Parish Office Closed Chapel Closed High School Jan 18 Youth Ministry Jan 18 P.U.S.H.—Middle School Youth Ministry

The Month Ahead

Jan 22-24 High School Retreat Jan 23 Women's Guild Game Day Liturgy of the Word for Jan 24 Children at 8:30am and 10:30am Masses Jan 24 North County Widows & Widowers Mass & Breakfast Jan 30 Liturgical Ministers Workshop

The Year Ahead

Feb 20 JustFaith Workshop Spirited Seniors Bus Tour Feb 25 to Huntington Apr 18 Spring Sing-Choral Concert Apr 30 Eleventh Annual Golf Classic June 4-6 Parish Campout Second Annual Aug 22 Pastor's Dinner Oct 17 STM 25th Anniversary Celebration

Questions? Contact Henny at

Pray for Women Religious

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

January 18		
Sr. Joan Mary Dwyer, OP		
January 19		
Sr. Margaret Eilerman, CSJO		
January 20		
Sr. Suzanne Ensminger, CSJ		
January 21		
Sr. Maria Eugenia Espinoza, MFP		
January 22		
Sr. Carmen Figueroa, SFCC		
January 23		
Sr. Anne G. Fitzgerald, CSJ		
January 24		
Sr. Madeline Fitzgerald, OSC		

Welcome to Newly Registered Parishioners

Jack & Rita Shepard

Flower Donations

We would like to gratefully acknowledge the contribution of: **Lee Coccaro**

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

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 ×100.



STM \$crip News

Thanks to all those who are using the Scrip Program. If you have not tried it, consider taking advantage of this easy method—merchants contribute a percentage of every dollar you spend to the St. Thomas More Building Fund.

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
PhoneEmail
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!

Social Justice

Get on the Bus

Our Parish will be participating in this wonderful program again this year. There are many ways to participate. The first step is helping the families to register for their child to visit his or her mother in prison. If you would like to help one family register and stay in touch with them until the prison visit in May, call Sr. Maureen at 760-758-4100 x131. A Volunteer Bus Coordinator is also needed. If you are interested, please send your email address to maureenb@stmoside.org and the job description will be sent for you to review. Watch the bulletin for further information and ways to participate.

JustFaith Program SAVE THE DATE!

On Saturday, February 20, St. Thomas More will be hosting an Introductory Workshop on *JustFaith*, a process that will help us embark on a spiritual journey into the compassion of Christ. The speaker, Jack Jezreel, will help us "embrace the Gospel in ways that respond to the world's needs by working for justice that liberates, restores and heals."

Mark your calendars for February 20, 8:30am-12:00noon. Other parishes in the diocese are also being invited.

For more information: *www.justfaith.org* or Sr. Maureen at 760-758-4100 x131. Watch for a flyer in the Sunday bulletin with more details in the next few weeks.

Opportunity to Help Homeless Families

The North County Solutions for Change women and children's shelter needs volunteers for meal preparation, servers, and donations (food and paper goods). Our ministry answers the call by Jesus to feed the hungry in our time and



neighborhood. Any help you can provide is most welcome!

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

These dates in 2010 are available for dinner adoption:

January 24, February 28, March 28, April 25, May 23, June 27, August 22, September 26, November 28, and December 26

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

Food Bank Contributions

Every weekend, we will be collecting non-perishable food items to benefit the North County Community Services Food Bank. Look for the blue barrels on the Plaza at weekend Masses to deposit your contributions. The most needed items include canned meats and protein, pasta and



pasta sauce, boxed macaroni and cheese, and canned fruit. Thank you for your support! For more information, contact Ron Briseno at 760-758-4100 x153 or *ronb@stmoside.org*.

Women's Guild News

GAME DAY—Saturday, January 23 at 11:00am. This is a really fun day open to all members and friends of St. Thomas More, including children and grandchildren. Cost is \$10. The day will include drinks, hors d'oeuvres, lunch, and games, and cards of all types. Bring your own, or pick up one of ours. We have plenty of cards and games available, and it is not necessary to have a foursome, as there are always people ready to form groups. We also have an abundance of door prizes and beautiful opportunity baskets for you to take chances on. So come and join the fun. Sign up after all Masses for the next two weeks, or contact Jen Frost at 858-692-7439, or Sally Fay at 760-727-1766.

Many thanks to all who contributed their "prized objects" for our Chinese auction. It was a great success, and thanks go to our inimitable auctioneer, Nancy Wozniak, and to Bob and Pat Wong for the beautiful decorations.

Knights of Columbus Basketball Free Throw Championship

All boys and girls ages 10-14 are invited to participate in the local level of competition for the 2010 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship. The local competition will be held on Sunday, January 24, after the 10:30am Mass at St. Thomas More. The free throw contest is sponsored annually with winners progressing through local, district, and state competitions. Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent. For entry forms or additional information, contact Jim Bailey at 760-754-1635 or Chuck Fay at 760-727-1766. See the Knights on the Plaza after most Masses in December and January to sign up.

Facing Surgery or a Serious Illness?

If you, a family member or close friend is facing surgery or has been diagnosed with a serious illness, the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick can be powerful and comforting.

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

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.

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) and automatic checking/savings account deduction. For more information, contact the Parish Office at 760-758-4100 x100 or parish office@stmoside.org.

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.



Monday January 18 7:00pm 2010 Goals

For more information: Ron or Louise 760-758-4100 x153 ronb@stmoside.org

High School Youth

at Monday Night Youth Group January 18 7:00 to 8:30 PM

JOURNEY 2010 Retreat
January 22-24
registration (losed

(a) Sale 760-726-7236

Catholic Widows and Widowers of North County

We usually meet the second and fourth Sundays of each month. On Sunday, January 24, we celebrate Mass here at 10:30am, followed by a scrumptious brunch buffet (\$22.25 including gratuity) at nearby Shadowridge Country Club. If you'd like to attend, please RSVP to Jackie Cohen at 760-726-4343 immediately. Prospective members are welcome to come check us out. For our monthly newsletter of activities or for further information, please see the bulletin board on the lower level or contact Carol Kope at 760-758-4100.

Parish Potluck

Friday, February 5, 6:00pm, lower level

Please join us and bring one of your favorite main dishes, salads, or desserts. A bottle of wine is always appreciated. Don't forget to bring your favorite date! (If you don't have one, come anyway.) Please sign up on the Plaza after Masses or call Germaine Wilmott at 760-758-9949.

Save This Date for a Tour of the Huntington Library and Gardens: Thursday, February 25!



St. Thomas More Spirited Seniors is sponsoring a bus tour to the Huntington Library and Gardens and hope you can join us for a day of fun and education. Watch for the flyer next week with complete information. Please save this date, Thursday, February 25, and plan to join us. For more information or questions, call Rita Shepard at 760-598-1123 or Lee Coccaro at 760-598-6248.

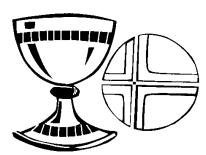
Liturgy & Music



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

CALLED TO BE A EUCHARISTIC MINISTER OR READER?

Formation Workshop on Saturday, January 30



The Oceanside Deanery (churches in the northwest portion of the San Diego diocese) will present a training workshop at St. Thomas More Parish for those interested in becoming an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. That will take place on Saturday, January 30, from 9:00am to 3:30pm on the upper level of the Parish Center.

Registration forms are available on the Parish's web site at www.stmoside.org/emhc.htm. Print it out or get one at the reception desk in the Parish Office during regular business hours.

The class will be taught by the top-notch team of Rev. Jerry O'Donnell of All Hallows Parish, Sr. Katie Lett, CPPS, of Blessed Sacrament Parish, and Brenda Estigoy and Douglas Lynn from St. Thomas More.

Potential Eucharistic Ministers and Readers must be confirmed in the Catholic Church (or in the current Confirmation class).

We look forward to your joining us. For additional information, contact Douglas Lynn at 760-758-4100 x140 or douglasl@stmoside.org.



WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY — JANUARY 18-25, 2010

Joint Message for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2010

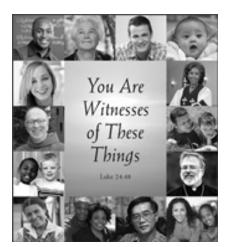
YOU ARE WITNESSES OF THESE THINGS (LUKE 24:48)

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

During the past century, reconciliation among Christians has taken on very different forms. Spiritual ecumenism has shown how important prayer is for Christian unity. Great energy has been put into theological dialogue which has led to a greater degree of doctrinal consensus. Practical cooperation between churches in the social field has given birth to fruitful initiatives. Alongside these major accomplishments, the question of mission has had a particular place. It is generally held that the 1910 World Mission Conference in Edinburgh, Scotland marked the beginnings of the modern ecumenical movement.

To honor the 100th anniversary of this foundational event in the history of the ecumenical movement it was natural for the promoters of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity—The World Council of Churches' Faith and Order Commission and the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity—to invite the Scottish churches to prepare the scriptural theme for the 2010 Week of Prayer at the same time that they were actively involved in preparations for the anniversary of the 1910 Conference in Scotland and its theme of "Witnessing to Christ today". In response, the churches suggested as the theme for the 2010 Week of Prayer "You are Witnesses of These Things" (Luke 24:48).

May we truly be the witnesses we are called to be as once again we pray and work for the unity of all, joining our prayer to that of the Lord Jesus Christ, "that all may be one" (John 17:21).



The Episcopal Church
Presbyterian Church (USA)
U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops
Evangelical Lutheran Churches in
America

United Church of Christ Christian Methodist Episcopal Church The United Methodist Church

Upcoming Music

JANUARY 23/24
Third Sunday
in Ordinary
Time
5:00pm Mass
Adult Praise
8:30am Mass

Cantor
10:30am Mass

Youth Praise

Faith Formation



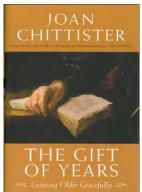
Kathleen Bell Director of Faith Formation kathleenb@stmoside.org; 760-758-4100 x110



Fr. Mike's Bookies

The Gift of Years (Growing Older Gracefully) by Joan Chittister is our next book for discussion on February 3 at 9:00am or 7:00pm. It is available for \$15 outside the Faith Formation Office. Sr. Maureen will be facilitating the discussion.

This book is not meant to be read! It is meant to be pondered! This is a delightful and challenging look at growing older gracefully. The chapters are brief and designed for reading a



chapter or two each day in order to "rethink" our perception of this phase of our lives as a time of great creativity and freedom! For more information, call Sr. Maureen at 760-758-4100 x131.

Parish Mission

We are blest with another opportunity for spiritual enrichment with our Annual Parish Mission, March 1-4.

Fr. Jude Winkler, OFM Conv., will offer a Scripture-based Parish Mission entitled:

The Gospels Are Speaking! Are We Listening?



Fr. Jude comes to us from St. Joseph Cupertino Friary in Maryland. As a highly regarded Scripture scholar, he has lectured throughout the world. He has authored numerous articles for magazines on scripture themes and has written many books for adults and children.

In recent years, Fr. Jude directed the San Diego Diocesan Priests' Retreat.

Mark your calendars now so that you can participate fully in our Parish Mission.

Today is a RE.A.CH day at Church

Progress Reports go home today!

Little Rock Bible Studies Israel's Story—Part One

Little Rock Scripture Study group begins part one of the study of Israel's story on Wednesday, February 10, at 9:00am or Thursday, February 11, at 7:00pm for seven sessions. This book explores Old Testament history, theology, and stories form the creation accounts of Genesis to the fall of the Northern Kingdom and its prophets. These are the lessons that the study will be covering:

- 1. First Things First
- 2. Out of Egypt
- 3. Into the Land
- 4. Long Live the King
- 5. A Kingdom Divided
- 6. Thus Says the Lord

Hope to see you there! For more information, contact Masako Streling at 760-295-2594 or *mstr0619@cox.net*.

PBJ Update

Food for children at Catholic Charities in Vista

2010 GOAL: 365 jars Collected to date: 77 jars



Information for Growth

10—Answer

On Pentecost Sunday, Christians celebrate

A) the Holy Spirit coming to the disciples. (CCC 2623)

11—Ouestion



Which describes the call to discipleship?

- A) to be perfect in all things.
- B) to separate oneself from the world.
- C) to give full time service as a Church worker.
- D) to follow Jesus in His mission, joy, and sufferings.

Stewardship & Development



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

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP God Transforms Our Ordinary Gifts

At the wedding in Cana, Jesus turned what would have been an embarrassing situation for the bride and groom into a glorious event. The servants trusted Jesus and did as He told them.

Through our Lord, a miracle took place—transforming the ordinary into the extraordinary!

Good stewards know that when they trust in God and step out of their comfort zones, their ordinary gifts can be transformed for extraordinary purposes.

The Bible records four times when Mary speaks. Mary is a woman of few words. But what powerful words they are:

- 1. At the Annunciation she concludes by saying, "May it be done unto me according to your word."

 —Luke 1:34, 38
- 2. When she visits Elizabeth she proclaims the *Magnificat*.

 —*Luke 1:46-55*
- 3. Then Mary scolds Jesus for staying behind in Jerusalem.

 —Luke 2:48
- 4. Mary's last words in the Bible are at the wedding feast at Cana. She says to Jesus, "They have no more wine;" then to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you!"

 —John 23:4

The Blessed Virgin Mary gives us a model of faith, courage, and openness to God's Will. She challenges us to listen to Jesus in prayer and to do whatever He tells us; to become all that God created us to be. What is such a "woman of a few words" telling us today?

Probably: "Do whatever He tells you!"

As we enter the final stretch of our long awaited journey to break ground on our new Church, let us keep in mind that we are the body of Christ. We are the living stones who are blessed to carry out the mission and ministry of Jesus.

Good and gracious God,

We give you thanks for the many blessings you have given us— For shelter, clothing, food, love, and abundance in our lives, And for our parishes which connect us so closely

with you and your people.

We hear your call to Christian Stewardship, Lord.

Give us generous hearts that we may respond by sharing our blessings.

Give us courageous hearts that we may respond by living the Gospel message. Give us faith to believe in your goodness,

so that with confident hearts

we may return a generous portion of our monetary resources to you, O Lord.

We pray, with grateful hearts, through Christ, your Son. Amen.

The values of heaven turn the values of earth upside-down.

- S. Yates

A WAY TO GIVE ~ A WAY TO RECEIVE



DESIGNATED BANK ACCOUNTS, WILLS, LIVING TRUSTS, STOCKS, LIFE INSURANCE, MUTUAL FUNDS, REAL ESTATE

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: Designated Beneficiary Accounts, Wills, Living Trusts, 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.

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

2009 Retirement Fund for Religious \$4,315.19

Christmas 2009 Collection (to date) \$21,575.31

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (to date) \$1.484.50

Collection for Week of January 9/10, 2010

Number of Registered Households:**

Offertory*

Offertory (Loose Collection)

Children's envelopes

Total

998

7,106.79

763.00

763.00

7,871.29

- * Offertory envelopes, credit card withdrawals, automatic checking or savings account deductions (credit card and automatic bank account withdrawals are posted at STM on the 5th and/or 20th of each month).
- ** As part of its ongoing efforts to ensure the accuracy of our Parish records, the staff conducts a periodic review of registered households which seem to have become "absent" from the Parish's activities. This number reflects reductions made in the most recent periodic review.

News from the Larger Church

Mark Price Series in Vista—Unique presentations where Mark Price presents "In His Own Words" for specific bible characters. Catch the remaining appearances in 2010—Judas Iscariot on February 5, Doubting Thomas on April 16, and Simon Peter on June 4, all at St. Francis Church, 525 W. Vista Way, Vista. Discount ticket packages available. For more information, visit www.stfrancis-vista.org/specialevents.htm or call 760-945-8000.

The Treasure Box Grocery Plan in North County—is an economic meal program that provides a 21-25 lb. pre-assembled box of frozen food for \$30 (a savings of up to 65% off grocery store prices). For more information, including locations in your area, please visit www.thetreasurebox.org.

Volunteers Needed—Become a child advocate and make a lasting difference in the life of a foster child. More than just a mentor, you can give hope to a child who has none. For more information, call Voices for Children at 858-569-2019 or visit www.speakupnow.org.

Lunch Served for Seniors in Oceanside—The Salvation Army Senior Dining and Social Center, 3935 Lake Blvd, Oceanside (near Emeritus at Oceanside and Pacific Place) serves lunch for \$3 at noon, Monday-Friday, for any seniors 60 and over. For more information and reservations, call 760-631-8279

Ongoing Diocesan Workshops—Various topics related to religious education. For details, contact *www.diocese-sdiego.org/evangelization.htm* or 858-490-8230.

Marriage Encounter Weekends—For more information, contact *daveandcheryl@cost.net* or 619-303-5053.

Natural Family Planning Classes—For more information, contact *daveandcheryl@cox.net* or 619-303-5053.

Retrouvaille Retreat Program for Troubled Marriages—If your marriage is not what you want it to be, if communication has broken down, if you are divorced or separated, but want to repair your relationship, then Retrouvaille is for you. For more information, contact 951-259-9474 or www.helpourmarriage.com or 619-423-0182 (Spanish).

Vista Jail Catholic Ministry Needs Volunteers—The Catholic ministry team serving the men and women in the Vista Jail is expanding. They need more volunteers to serve on Monday afternoons, also Monday and Tuesday nights. Can you find a couple hours a week or a month to serve on a ministry team? Please explore this opportunity to help others and deepen your own relationship with God. Visit www.diocese-sdiego.org/restore or call the diocesan Restorative Justice office at 858-490-8375.

Winter Series of Theology on Tap for Young Adults in Mira Mesa—Mondays, January 18-February 8, 7:00-9:00pm, at Callahan's, 8111 Mira Mesa Blvd., Mira Mesa. For more information, visit www.yamsd.org or contact Carrie Giebel at cgiebel@diocese-sdiego.org or 858-490-8260.

Spiritual Exercises Silent Ignatian Retreats in Temecula—Presented by the priests of *Miles Christi*, the weekend of January 22-24 for women and young women and the weekend of February 12-14 for men and young men. For more information, contact Christine Timmerman at 209-357-0128 or *california@spiritualexercises.net*.

Catholic High School for Girls in San Diego—The Academy of Our Lady of Peace is now accepting ninth grade applications for the 2010-2011 school year. The entrance exam will take place on January 23, 8:30-11:30am. You may download the application from our website: *www.aolp.org*. For additional information, please call 619-725-9118.

Spring Forward Catechetical Conference in San Diego—Saturday, January 23, 9:00am-12:30pm at St. Therese Social Center. Kathleen Hendricks, MA, will speak on *Praying Like Jesus*. For more information, call 858-490-8230 or visit www.diocese-sdiego.org/evangelization.htm

Separated/Divorced Support Group in Solana Beach—If you are in pain from a separation or divorce please consider joining our group. We meet 10:15am on Sunday mornings at St. James Catholic Church Ministry Center Offices, located at 625 S. Nardo in Solana Beach. \$29 for Divorce Care workbook (optional). New group forming January 24. For additional information please contact Frank Grant at 760-533-1520 or fwgrant@earthlink.net.

Healing Mass in Solana Beach—with Fr. Dave Leon on Wednesday, January 25, at St. James Church, 625 S. Nardo, Solana Beach. Confessions at 6:00pm, music and testimony at 6:30pm, Mass at 7:00pm. For more information, call 858-481-6911.

Women's Weekend Retreat at Mission San Luis Rey: Change, Changes, and Changing—Experiences Toward God—Take some time to join us and other women for on January 29-31 at Mission San Luis Rey Retreat Center in Oceanside. Let's begin (or continue) our journeys together, with encouragement, surrounded by a community of women supportive of each other's journey toward God—women who believe, act, and experience the transcendent in everyday life. Father Philip Garcia, OFM and Emmalyn Moreno will lead retreat. This retreat begins Friday with dinner at 6:00pm and ends with lunch on Sunday. For additional information or to register, please call 760-757-3659.

SOCS (Support Our Community Seniors) Program in San Marcos—Thursday, February 11, 12:00-2:30pm at San Marcos United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall, 800 W. Mission, San Marcos. Includes complimentary lunch. Sponsored by Palomar Pomerado Health, this program offers training and a tool box of resources for volunteer visitors, care-givers, and family and friends of seniors. Learn how to build communication and listening skills, learn about senior health issues and community resources. Register by Monday, February 8, by contacting 858-675-5599 or *kay.stuckhardt@pph.org*.

Praying for Life—A group of North County Parishioners meets on the third Monday of each month from 10:00-10:30am to peacefully pray the rosary in front of the Carlsbad Planned Parenthood Clinic, 1820 Marron Road, Carlsbad. For more information, call Jahna White at 760-586-6356.

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.



Parish Contacts

Updated 01/10/10

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

Pastoral Council Committees	
Faith Formation & EvangelizationRory Griffin 760-414-3939	Social MinistriesDick & Charlene Belprez 760-295-1431
Religious Education (Adults)Wayne Zych 760-598-9244	Blood DriveLinda Dicus 760-726-5081
Small Church Communities Sondra Parks 760-598-1269	Bereavement Follow-up SupportLinda Dicus 760-726-5081
Little Rock Bible Studies Masako Streling 760-295-2594	Brother Benno's Deacon Tom & Patt Goeltz 760-727-8442
Religious Education (Children) Kathleen Bell 760-758-4100 x110	Christmas Angel MinistryJohn & Marti Harper 760-724-1181
Liturgy of the Word for Children Cathy Meyer 760-598-7853	Culture of LifeJane Kelleher 760-822-7041
Sacramental Preparation Kathleen Bell 760-758-4100 x110	Faith Works Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131
Mid. Sch. Youth Ministry .Ron & Louise Briseno 760-758-4100 x153	CPR/AED ClassesPhil Goscienski 760-732-1414
High School Youth Ministry Jeff & Gale Gibbons 760-726-7236	Disability FacilitationAnn Eriksson 760-599-7151
Young Adult MinistryJoanna Mueller 760-726-5644	Fraternity & Michaelle HouseDiantha Zschoche 760-685-0081
Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs Regina Aulisio 760-295-5530	Huggy Buddies Program
Evangelization	Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice
Vocations Deacon Tom & Patt Goeltz 760-758-4100 x130	Joyce Meehan 760-724-4974
RCIA/Adults	Interfaith Shelter Network Frank Coxon 760-599-8760
RCIA/Children Jeanette Marriott 760-434-1818	Jail MinistryRita McCarthy 760-758-4100 x100
LiturgyKathy Arciero 760-231-1022	More's Workers
Altar Linen CareAnna Meyers 760-727-4998	Prayer Request LinePat Wong 760-806-1310
Bereavement Facilitator Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131	Norma Flanagan 760-630-0180
Environment & Art Kathy Quinn 760-722-7525	Project Linus
Eucharistic Adoration	Sick & Homebound (Eucharist) Jean McCloskey 760-643-2363
Interior Design Team Pat & Phil Goscienski 760-732-1414	Sister Parish Program Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131
Liturgical MinistriesDouglas Lynn 760-758-4100 x140	Social Justice
Liturgical MusicDouglas Lynn 760-758-4100 x140	St. Bonaventure Mission
Marriage & Family Life Jen Frost 760-758-4100 x100	Office Support
ACTTS Young AdultsJen Frost actts@stmoside.org	Chair Set-UpLorraine Doering 760-758-4100 x102
	General SupportHenny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100 Kitchen OverseerVlad Bolsakov 760-473-8461
Family Services Deacon Tom Goeltz 760-758-4100 x130	STM Host Program
Marriage Preparation Rev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100	
Deacon Tom Goeltz 760-758-4100 x130	Development Council Committees
Parents & TotsPaul Mendiola 760-945-9042	Annual Catholic AppealFlora Fallone 760-758-4100 x100
Widows & Widowers of North CountyCarol Kope 760-758-4100	Capital CampaignBill Ipsen 760-723-0402
Jackie Cohen 760-726-4343	New Construction Brian Leahey 760-598-5697
Parish Organizations & EventsLisa & Pat Attardo 760-940-1505	Parish Membership Louise Briseno 760-726-4496
Golf Classic	Planned Giving Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120
Historian Anne Marshall 760-727-2668	Publicity/Public RelationsAnne Marshall 760-727-2668
Knights of Columbus	Sacrificial Giving/TithingPaul Ibbetson 760-734-1051
Library	Scrip Sales Theresa Goeltz 760-453-2876
Spirited SeniorsJudy & Jerry Buoniconti 760-758-5113	Stewardship
Vera Bayliss 760-739-9061	Vehicle DonationsVlad Bolsakov 760-758-4100 x100
Women's GuildValerie Thompson 760-630-1703	
	oral Staff
Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor	760-758-4100 x100 michaelr@stmoside.org
	x130 or 760-727-8442thomasg@stmoside.org
	760-758-4100 x131 maureenb@stmoside.org
	760-758-4100 x110 kathleenb@stmoside.org
	760-758-4100 x150 jeffg@stmoside.org, galeg@stmoside.org
	760-758-4100 x153 ronb@stmoside.org, louiseb@stmoside.org
Stacey Griffin, Faith Formation Office Assistant	760-758-4100 x110
	760-758-4100 x140
	760-758-4100 x100
	760-758-4100 x100
	760-758-4100 x120
	760-758-4100 x151
	760-758-4100 x100
	700-738-4100 x104
Bortune Booring, Furish Office Technician	

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"Our Journey Into The Future . . . Together" Phase I and Phase II



\$5,100,000 Phase I Pledges/Special Gifts* 625,000 Phase II Pledges to Date 600,000 Rectory/Investment Gifts**

*Includes pledges with future due dates and some unfulfilled pledges (\$4.8 million paid to date—all payments from this date forward directed to Phase II).

**Investment gifts (i.e., property, annuities, stocks, charitable remainder trusts, etc.) reflect current market value. Actual amounts realized upon redemption may vary.

\$12,400,000 Total *original* goal

\$1,500,000

Future Administration Building/Youth Center (original estimate)

Remaining funds needed to

build-out the Sanctuary

estimated cost—subject to

market fluctuation. We stand to save up to \$1,000,000

(\$9,300,000 current

the sooner we build.)

\$4,000,000-\$5,000,000

\$12,400,000 Capital Campaign Components:

- **†** Sanctuary, Bell Tower, Daily Chapel, and Memorial Gardens
- **Parish Center Debt Retirement**
- **Adjacent Land/Five Acres**
- SEI—North County High School (Secondary Education Initiative)
- † Parish Administration Building/ Youth Center

\$2,000,000 Total Needed (625,000) Already Pledged \$1,375,000 Still Needed

This Is It!
Additional funds
needed on deposit to
break ground
for our Sanctuary!

\$4,800,000 paid to date

\$3,200,000

Funds on deposit at the Diocese to date

\$234,000

Preliminary construction costs paid to date

\$131,000

Capital Campaign administrative costs to date

\$593,000

Payments on Parish Center debt (\$256,000 remaining balance, scheduled to be totally retired by December, 2011)

\$57,000

Necessary land maintenance/improvements to date

\$585,000

Additional five-acre land purchase (paid in full)

\$316,000

Secondary Education Initiative (Paid with the interest from our funds on deposit. This is directed toward our \$1,000,000 pledge for the new Catholic High School in North County.)

CHURCH OF SAINT THOMAS MORE

For more information, contact Chris Smith, Director of Stewardship and Development 760-758-4100 x120 or chriss@stmoside.org

1450 SOUTH MELROSE DRIVE • OCEANSIDE, CA 92056 • 760.758.4100 • WWW.STMOSIDE.ORG

Text of presentation by Bill Ipsen at all Masses the weekend of January 17, 2010

My name is Bill Ipsen, and I am the chairperson of our Capital Campaign, "Our Journey Into The Future... Together." I have had the privilege to be chairperson of our building fund drive for the new Church the past nine years. It has been and continues to be an honor for me to lead this effort to build our permanent Church.

Before I begin my presentation, I want to acknowledge the leadership of our parish—the people who are in the wings behind Fr. Mike—providing him with the necessary support, advice, and expertise that helps us do what we do so well.

Doug D'Agrosa Chairperson, Pastoral Council Ron Briseno

Chairperson, Development Council

Paul Ibbetson
Chairperson, Finance Council

Brian Leahey

Chairperson, New Construction Committee Dr. Phil and Pat Goscienski

Chairpersons, Interior Design Team

Finally, an important spoke in the wheel, Chris Smith, Director of Stewardship and Development, who oversees the campaign daily from A to Z.

Today I want to begin by presenting our final update from the concluding five-year campaign—Phase I—and also give you some great news as we move forward in our quest to build our new Church.

As you can imagine in recent years with the present economic climate, we have had the same difficulty in managing the Parish household as you have in managing your personal household. We have reexamined all of our daily ministerial programs, buildings and grounds, staff, and all other expenses that go into operating a Parish the same way you have had to manage the challenges in your homes and in your personal lives during these turbulent economic times. Through the diligence of our Pastor and staff, with assistance from the leaders of our councils, and the generosity of the people of this Parish, we have been able to meet our obligations and balance our budget.

I must add, however, that balancing our budget includes monies received from a number of special offerings such as the "Did You Know?" campaign, Annual Golf Classic and dinner, Vehicle Donation program, and the rebate from the Annual Catholic Appeal. We look forward to the return of better economic times in support of our weekly offertory contributions so that we can direct the monies from these special programs back to the Capital Campaign.



Now I would like to update you on the conclusion of the first phase of our campaign, which ended December 31, 2009.

Total pledges	\$5.1 million
Grand total including special gifts	\$5.7 million
Total amount collected to date	\$4.8 million
Amount on deposit	\$3.2 million

Please keep in mind that throughout the five-year campaign a portion of funds collected was used for on-going expenses related to the campaign: architectural and pre-construction permitting costs, purchase of additional 5 acres of land, payments of \$316,000 toward our commitment of \$1 million for the new north county catholic high school, and most importantly, paying down debt on our current building. When Fr. Mike arrived at St. Thomas More, our debt was \$1.4 million; at the present time, it is only \$256,000.

Five years ago as we began this campaign, conditions were considerably different in our country and in our world. In spite of the economic challenges we have faced in the last 12–18 months, we have managed to move forward with our campaign and are very grateful to everyone for your persistence in support of our goal. As I indicated earlier, as we start 2010, we currently have a total of \$3.2 million on deposit in our account with the Diocese. Along with the \$1.6 million in preparation and preliminary expenditures that have brought us so close to breaking ground for our new Church, we have collected \$4.8 million in just five years. This is an absolute success from a parish of about 1,000 households! As a parish, we should give ourselves a round of applause.

Now for some really great news about a very special opportunity that has been presented to us: with great pleasure and excitement, I am announcing to you the beginning of Phase II of our Capital Campaign and a very special opportunity. What is an opportunity? Opportunity is defined as "a possibility due to a favorable combination of circumstances". This past summer while he was on vacation, Fr. Mike met with Bishop Brom and the staff at the Diocese regarding the status of our campaign and how we might be able to move forward in building our new Church. As we have discussed in the past, the Diocese has criteria in place as a guideline for a Parish to obtain financing for new construction. Included in these criteria are formulas that incorporate Parish revenue with Parish

expense and percentages of available cash to finance new projects. The end result is that a large percentage of the overall cost of the project must be collected and on deposit prior to financing approval.

In his discussions with Bishop Brom, Fr. Mike was able to provide detailed Parish financial and current campaign information, as well as a review of preliminary work completed and work in progress, including architectural and interior design plans and the status of the conditional use permit we have with the City of Oceanside. Using every opportunity available to us, we have been moving forward with much of this necessary "preliminary" work for the last several years as we wait for Diocesan approval to begin the actual construction.

With all of this information, I am here today to present you with a fantastic opportunity: the Diocese has decided that because of our excellent record in fundraising and because of the current difficult economic climate—which is conducive to building—they will waive specific criteria normally associated with the approval process and give St. Thomas More just one specific goal to achieve in order to begin construction. We need to have \$5 million on deposit with the Diocese. Then we can build our permanent Church. This is a golden opportunity that has been handed to us.

So, we begin the next phase of our Capital Campaign "Our Journey Into The Future... Together" ~ Phase II. This will only be a two-year campaign—or it can be less than two years—it's up to us. Amount needed: \$2 million—yes, that is all we now need. This will give us the \$5 million required to be on deposit. Now the key here is that all funds need to be collected by December 31, 2011 or sooner.

Let me recap—the Diocese has promised St. Thomas More that if we can raise \$2 million and have a total of \$5 million on deposit by December 31, 2011 or sooner, then we have the approval to start construction immediately, and they will give us a loan that will allow us to build out the Church completely including the Daily Mass chapel and memorial gardens. At the same time, we currently estimate that some \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 can be saved on our project with the reduction in cost of basic construction materials such as concrete and steel due to the current economy. But, this is the key: we need to build now so that we can take advantage of the savings in building costs and the savings in the



amount of interest on the loan. This is an opportunity we may never have again.

You may be asking, "How can I help? What can I do to make this happen?" There are two ways you can help:

- 1. Pray for the success of our next campaign effort and ask God's help in guiding us as we move forward.
- 2. Please consider a pledge to the next phase of our campaign. All pledges are welcome, and a pledge from everyone is necessary. Information regarding Phase II opportunities and timetables is being mailed to all registered households this week.

I would ask that you read the information you receive and consider what your sacrifice can be, then kindly return your commitment form to the office as soon as you can—the clock is already ticking.

Your pledge of \$500 or \$1,000 or \$2,500 or \$5,000 or \$10,000—\$25,000 or \$50,000 for those who can; or if you are in a position to do so, \$75,000 or \$100,000—all is greatly appreciated and what we will need to make this happen and take advantage of this opportunity. Remember, if we give up one of our fancy Starbucks drinks per week or one family pizza outing per month, it will amount to a nice small pledge over a two-year period.

I will also ask those in a position to do so to please

consider a generous down payment as we start our campaign. The Diocese will not only be looking at our pledge goal, but also at our ability to raise these funds as quickly as possible.

I have more great news for you as we begin this new campaign. Through the generosity of some members of the Parish who were personally contacted before we began this new phase of our Capital Campaign, we already have 98 pledges that total \$625,000. This gives us a great start and brings our goal down to \$1,375,000!

In summary, today you have heard about a very unique opportunity—the Diocese has recognized that while we are small in number, we are large in our ability to make things happen. As I indicated earlier, we very likely will never have such an opportunity again. I am asking all of us to meet this next challenge—surely not a small challenge—but look at what we have already accomplished!

Together we can make placing that shovel in the ground a reality in the very near future.

We already are—the Church of St. Thomas More—continuing the mission and ministry of Jesus. Our efforts to continue His work will be strengthened when we have a dedicated and sacred place in which to celebrate who we are and what we do. Now is the time...now is the moment...let us make it happen.

Thank you. May God bless all of us!