

Christmas Masses were held at the Rancho Buena Vista High School gym in the late 1990s.



A Roman Catholic Parish in the Diocese of San Diego

Spirituality † Tradition † Community

1450 South Melrose Drive
Oceanside, CA 92056

760.758.4100 Phone
760.758.4165 Fax

www.stmoside.org
parishoffice@stmoside.org



This space will be featuring different memories from our history each week. See page 4 for more details.

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

December 19, 2010 • Fourth Sunday of Advent

Pastor's Column

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

Oplatki – Christmas Wafers

The word Bethlehem means “House of Bread.” The breaking of bread is a sign of charity, unity, and friendship.

Religious family traditions and customs bring the truths of Faith into the home.

One of these beautiful Christmas customs is the Christmas Wafer. A Wafer bearing a simple design commemorative of Christ's birth is given to everyone present gathered together for the Christmas meal.

With a simple prayer for God's grace and the welfare of the present and absent members of the family, the designated family member then invites everyone to go to another person, and with a gesture of a hug, kiss, or handshake, ask forgiveness for anything they may have done to hurt that family member in the past year, and to seek God's blessings upon them in the coming year.

Each person, as the words are said, then breaks a piece off of each other's Wafer and consumes the piece that has been broken off.

(Continued on page 2)

Christmas Schedule

Parish Office and Blessed Sacrament Chapel Closed
from Wednesday, December 22 at 12:00noon until Monday January 3

Friday, December 24 - Masses at 4:00pm and 6:00pm, Christmas Caroling at 9:30pm, Mass at 10:00pm

Saturday, December 25 - Mass at 9:30am (NO Mass at 5:00pm)

Sunday, December 26 - Masses at 8:30am and 10:30am

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 760-758-4100 x140

Music Ministry: Contact Douglas Lynn at 760-758-4100 x140

Communion for the Homebound/Hospitalized:

Contact Parish Office at 760-758-4100 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 760-758-4100 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 760-758-4100 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 760-758-4100 x120 or chriss@stmoside.org.*

Pastor's Column *(continued from page 1)*

The spiritual lesson in this age old custom is unity of the family—the main pillar of society. The bond of unity is the Christ-like charity that should exist among the members of the family.

The members of the family are the links in the unbroken chain of One Body, One Bread, One Christ, and the One Church. The family is part of the eternal procession no matter where they are. For there is a universal longing to be always with one another, with God.

All this brings to mind clearly our charity for one another, to seek salvation together. Family customs remind us that we seek and obtain salvation with the help of others at all times.

These Christmas Wafers, and the home ritual surrounding their use, originated in Poland. This custom and ritual is also popular in Slovakia, Lithuania, Ukraine, and other parts of Catholic Eastern Europe.

Christmas Wafers (Oplatki) have been available after Mass at the Information Table on the plaza for the past several weekends and will be available this weekend as well.

They are also available in the Parish Office during the week.

There is no charge for the wafers. They are a gift to us from our Parishioners, Ed and Clarice Bednarz.

I encourage you to make this home ritual a part of your Christmas Tradition.

Please take advantage of this gift, and if you haven't already, start a new family Christmas Tradition.

F. Mike

Eucharistic Adoration



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

Exposition of the Eucharist on First Fridays.
Next date: Friday, January 7.

*For more information, contact
the Parish Office at 760-758-4100 x100.*

STM 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!

All we need is clear title. Non-operational is OK!

**Since 2006 we have netted over \$21,000
from this program. Thank you donors!**



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

Readings for the Week Ahead

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

Sunday, December 19 (10)

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7:10-14

Psalms 24:1-6

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-24

Monday, December 20 (196)

Isaiah 7:10-14

Psalms 24:1-6

Luke 1:26-38

Tuesday, December 21 (197)

Peter Canisius, priest, doctor

Song of Songs 2:8-14 or

Zephaniah 3:14-18a

Psalms 33:2-3,11-12,20-21

Luke 1:39-45

Wednesday, December 22 (198)

1 Samuel 1:24-28

1 Samuel 2:1,4-8 (Psalm)

Luke 1:46-56

Thursday, December 23 (199)

John of Kanty, priest

Malachi 3:1-4,23-24

Psalms 25:4bc-5ab,8-10,14

Luke 1:57-66

Friday, December 24 (14)

The Nativity of the Lord (Midnight)

Isaiah 9:1-6

Psalms 96:1-3,11-13

Titus 2:11-14

Luke 2:1-14

Saturday, December 25 (16)

The Nativity of the Lord (Day)

Isaiah 52:7-10

Psalms 98:1-6

Hebrews 1:1-6

John 1:1-18

Sunday, December 26 (17)

The Holy Family of

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Sirach 3:2-7,12-14

Psalms 128:1-5

Colossians 3:12-21

Matthew 2:13-15,19-23

Prayer List

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

Laura Allenfort
Lucia Ambriz
Mary Balli
Patricia Barbour
Cindra Bell
John Bennici
Regina Bentz
George "Whitey" Betus
Bruce Bousquet
Tamara Bousquet
The Bower Family
Lynda Brady
Monica Broussard
Janet Brown
Shelby Campbell
Claudia Caplinger
The Carrothers Family
The Caserta Family
Paul Cassidy
Flor Catap & Family
Simon Cattan
Pat Christopherson
Paul Cipowski
Dick Clarke
Dolly Cole
Carl Coleman
James Coleman
Pat Cope
Thomas Cornwell & Family
Pat Crafton
The Dale Family
Karen Flaharty Daley
Cecilia & Bernard DeSimone
The DiBianca Family
Judith DiMatteo
The Doering Family
Linda Dossman
Kathryn Ernst
Bob & Boo Falconer
The Fiore Family
Peggy & Jack Fischer
Eileen Flood
Ryan Flum
The Fonseca Family
Matthew Foster
Kathryn Franklin
Joe Freire
Carmen Garcia
Rick Gonzalez
Eileen Gough
Jeffrey Guyer
Rosemary Haeffelin
Anita Hage
Susan Hallahan
The Harker Family
Rita Harnacker
Lillian Hills
The Holub Family
Max Isaac
Sue Johnston
Eileen Jones
Pat Jones
Paul Kennedy
Debbie Kinney
Sr. Anne Kremenik
Helen Kuhn
Lillian Lachance
The Lamelin Family
Bernie Lanzrath
Brandon LeBlanc
Cassandra Loretto
Lauren Loretto
James MacArthur
Nancy Marley
Bob McWilliams
Lorraine Micallef
Carol Michael

June Mitchell
Nancy Moore
Margie Myers
Cosmo Nocida
R. Northrup
Helen O'Connell
Heidi Olson
Lupe Casas Pelletier
Helen Pingtella
Anne Post
Reuben & Evi Quinn
Otila Quiroz
Jack Riley
Rita Ritchie
Joanne Robinson
Maria Rogers
Sr. Loyola Romey
Dorothy Rouse
The Russo Family
Nancy Scali
Linda Schmidt
The Douglas E. Schulte Family
Freda Schweitzer
Bob, Joan, & Julie Shea
Elizabeth Shirzad
Richard Sikora
Mike Snyder
Nick Soltau
Martha Sosa
Gilda Spiegl
Leah Stevens
The Stringer Family
Pete Sullivan
Maria Surmenidis
David Sweet
Stephen Toth, Jr.
Laurie Updyke
Barbara Upson
Jo Urrico
Arnie Velasco
Dominic Vienna, Jr.
Vanessa Vitiello-Koble
Paul & Mai Vo & Family
Kevin Watson-Graff
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 M. Barnes, USAF
1st Lt. Jeffrey Bauer, USMC
Major Robert Bechtold, USMC
PFC John Brandone
PFC Jonathan Chasteler
Corp. Willie Deel
Lance Corp. Brandon Doyle, USMC
SSGT Julian Fyffe, USMC
MSGT Steve Gallegos, USMC
BM2 Bobby Hartdegen, US Navy
Staff Sgt. Travis M. Meyers, USAF
Pvt. 2 Jess Phillips, US Army
Sr. Airman Robert Spear, USAF
PVT2 Tyler Timmerman, US Army
LT Billy Turley, USN
Sgt. Charles Watts, 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

- Dec 19 Liturgy of the Word for Children at 8:30am and 10:30am Masses
- Dec 24 Vigil of Christmas Mass at 4:00pm, 6:00pm, and 10:00pm Caroling at 9:30pm
- Dec 25 Christmas Day Mass at 9:30am (NO Mass at 5:00pm)
- Dec 26 Holy Family Mass at 8:30am and 10:30am
- Dec 26 Liturgy of the Word for Children at 8:30am and 10:30am Masses

The Month Ahead

- Dec 31 Mary, the Mother of God Mass at 5:00pm

Next Year

- Jan 1 Mary, the Mother of God Mass at 9:30am
- Jan 7 Eucharistic Exposition
- Jan 7 Women's Ministry
- Jan 8 Adult CPR/AED Class
- Jan 9 Knights of Columbus Breakfast
- Jan 10 Women's Guild Luncheon
- Jan 15 Adult CPR/AED Class
- Jan 22 Adult CPR/AED Class
- Jan 23 New Member Reception
- Feb 5 Women's Guild Fashion Show (new date)

Questions? Contact Henny at 760-758-4100 x100 hennyj@stmoside.org.

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.

December 20 Sr. Maureen Keegan, SCMM
December 21 Sr. M. Jelena Kekic, MC
December 22 Sr. Myrtle Keller, MMS
December 23 Sr. Maureen Kelley, RSM
December 24 Sr. Margaret E. Kelly, OP
December 25 Sr. Susanne Kernaghan, CHS
December 26 Sr. Astrid Kershaw, OCD

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 18, 5:00pm
Helen McCullough ☩

Sunday, December 19, 8:30am
Rosemarie Rowland ☩

Sunday, December 19, 10:30am
Mari-Jo Porter ☩
Joseph Immerso ☩

Tuesday, December 21, 8:15am
Catherine Koonce ☩

Wednesday, December 22, 8:15am
Zoe Dorsa ☩

Thursday, December 23, 8:15am
Eunice Masseth ☩

Friday, December 24, 4:00pm
Tom McGearly ☩

Friday, December 24, 6:00pm
Jean Crowell ☩

Friday, December 24, 10:00pm
Ken Swift

Saturday, December 25, 9:30am
Luigi & Anna Luce ☩

Sunday, December 26, 8:30am
Raymond Staehr ☩

Sunday, December 26, 10:30am
Cairo Salvatierra ☩

In Memoriam



Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

Jacinto P. Mangahas, who died on December 8. Jacinto is the father of Parishioner Joy Molony. Funeral services will be in the Philippines. Please keep Jacinto's family in your prayers.

Rosa Fonseca, who died on December 11. Rosa is the mother of Parishioner Lucy Fonseca. Funeral services were held last week in Indiana. Please keep Rosa's family in your prayers.

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

Advent Reconciliation Services at Local Parishes

Date	Time	Parish
Mon, Dec. 20	6:30pm	St. Mark, San Marcos
Tue, Dec. 21	6:00pm	St. Peter, Fallbrook

Morning Prayer During Advent

Remember that each Monday during Advent, deacon-in-training John Fredette is leading Morning Prayer at 8:15am. Join us for this universal prayer of the church on December 20.

Retirement Fund for Religious

Envelopes were attached to the bulletin at the beginning of December for this annual collection to help support priests and religious who are retired. The envelopes may be returned any time during the month of December. Thank you for your generosity.

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Collection

\$1,404

Memories from Our History

For our 25th anniversary year, we will be featuring different historical photos and memories on the bulletin cover each week. If you have any photos or memories you would like considered, please email them to parishoffice@stmoside.org or bring them to the Parish Office.

STM Scrip News

The "Scrip Store" at the Parish Office will be closed from Wednesday, December 22, at noon until Monday, January 3.

Remember, Scrip is available for purchase FOUR ways!

1. Monday-Friday during business hours in the Parish Office
2. Online at www.stmoside.org, click on Contact Us, then click on Scrip
3. Email at scrip@stmoside.org
4. Phone at 760-758-4100 x150

Orders may be picked up after Mass on the weekend or at the Parish Office during the week.

Women's Guild News

Polish Christmas—What a delightful event this was. Many thanks to Fr. Mike for giving up his day off to enlighten us with stories of many Polish customs, including bringing the Christmas wafers for us all so we could partake in that tradition. Thanks also to Mary Coxon for the room décor, Ginny Cornwell for the maps, and the many cooks who created the delicious Polish feast. Special thanks also to Siggie Ogan for the hand-made centerpieces and to Nancy Wozniak, who travelled all the way to Poland to bring holy cards of the Black Madonna for each person and also several door prizes. It was a wonderful afternoon enjoyed by all.

January Chinese Auction—Start collecting those items you have and never use, things you have won or been given that don't quite work with your décor, and keep an eye out for that odd Christmas gift from Aunt Agatha. Bring them January 10 to our annual Chinese auction and watch the fun as our dynamic duo of Nancy Wozniak and Elaine Weiler try to figure out what everything is as they draw the winning numbers. All this and a great luncheon for just \$8.

February 5 Fashion Show and Luncheon—Mark this date for our fashion show at Shadowridge Country Club. Details later.

Christmas Raffle—Drawing will be after the 10:30am Mass on Sunday, December 19. Checks will be mailed to winners.

Marriage & Family Life Corner



Marriage Moments—As Christmas approaches we look forward to special meals with family and friends. One day of splurging on chocolate or cake is seldom harmful, BUT some folks are sensitive about their weight. How do you feel about your body image? How do you project your feelings onto your family?

Parenting Pointers—Leading up to Christmas, parents often spend a lot of time thinking about and purchasing presents for their children, their relatives, those at the office, etc. Consider the "one in-one out" principle for gifts. If your children are old enough, suggest that they choose one possession that they'd be willing to give to a needy child at Christmas. Do it yourself.

For more information, visit www.diocese-sdiego.org and click on Ministries, Marriage & Family Life or contact Jen Frost at 760-758-4100 x100.

Little Rock Bible Study

We will explore the Gospel of Matthew beginning Wednesday, January 12, at 9:00am or Thursday, January 13, at 7:00pm. Please join us for ten sessions as Matthew presents Jesus' story, teaching, and opportunity for Christian discipleship. Sign-up forms are available at the information table on the Plaza after weekend Masses or in the Parish Office during the week.

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.

Catholic Widows and Widowers of North County

We are a group of Catholic widowed men and women encompassing all of North County. Our general meeting and potluck is held the second Sunday of each month (next is January 9 at a member's home in Oceanside). On the fourth Sunday of each month, we meet at various Catholic churches in North County for Mass—the next one being at **St. Thomas More on January 23!** followed by brunch at Mimi's. Prospective members are welcome at any of our activities. See the bulletin board on the lower level for our monthly newsletter of activities. Our active calendar of events includes dining, dancing, concerts, golf and several happy hours. For more information, contact Gerri Wilmott at 760-758-9949 or Carol Kope 760-758-4100.

Christmas Angel Project

Our beautiful tree has shed its stocking, star, and snowflake ornaments and is now adorned with golden crowns for our annual Birth Choice of San Marcos drive. Baby items will be collected on the weekend of January 1-2, the Feast of the Epiphany.

The response to last Saturday's stocking/gift bag stuffing was overwhelming! Now enjoy the rest of the Advent and Christmas Season knowing that you have made a difference for so many local children and families in need. Thank you, St. Thomas More Parishioners!

The Future Church—How Ten Trends Are Revolutionizing the Catholic Church

John L. Allen, Jr., author, is the Vatican correspondent for the *National Catholic Reporter* and a Vatican analyst for CNN and National Public Radio. His weekly Internet column, *All Things Catholic*, is widely considered the best source of breaking news and analysis of the Catholic Church in the English language.

As part of our Adult Faith Formation Program for this year, I will be leading and facilitating a discussion on this book. We will gather on three Wednesdays at 7:00pm—January 19, February 9, and March 2.

We will walk through the book in this fashion:

Wednesday, January 19

The Introduction; Trend One: A World Church; Trend Two: Evangelical Catholicism; Trend Three: Islam; Trend Four: The New Demography

Wednesday, February 9

Trend Five: Expanding Lay Roles; Trend Six: The Biotech Revolution; Trend Seven: Globalization; Trend Eight: Ecology

Wednesday, March 2

Trend Nine: Multipolarism; Trend Ten: Pentecostalism; Trends That Aren't; Catholicism in the Twenty-First Century

I encourage you to purchase the book if you haven't already, and begin reading. The book is available at the Information Table on the Plaza on the weekends and in the Parish Office during the week.

Our discussion of this book promises to create some lively dialogue as we look to the future of our Church!

—Fr. Mike

Our Journey Into The Future . . . Together! Phase II ~ Our Permanent Church

St. Thomas More, pray for us!

Pledge Statistics as of December 14

Total Phase II Responses	# of Families Responding	
Unable to pledge at this time (12 of these families have been adopted)	34	
Under \$100	22	
\$100 and up	209	
\$1,000 and up	82	
\$1,500 and up	133	
\$2,500 and up	86	
\$4,500 and up	31	
\$6,000 and up	19	
\$10,000 and up	20	
\$25,000 and up	3	
\$50,000 and up	2	
Total to Date	\$1,478,521	641
Still Needed	\$521,479	371
Total Goal	\$2,000,000	1,012



O God,
the builder of all things,
You have placed on us
the obligation of toil.

Grant that the work we do
toward providing our faith community
with a permanent spiritual home
for prayer, nourishment and sacrifice
may serve to better our lives
and give you greater honor and glory.

Through your goodness,
may our acts of generosity,
given not merely from our excess
but also from our need,
contribute to the spread
of the kingdom of Christ,
who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God forever and ever.

Amen.

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

Liturgy & Music

Worship God

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

TOO BIG FOR JUST ONE DAY!

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON overflows with memories and traditions. We save some of our best songs, stories, films, and recipes for this season of the year. We send out cards and notes, and we do all kinds of odd things that we would never do at any other time—like hang empty socks by the fireplace and bring a tree into the house and put wrapped gifts under it. We get wistful at the sound of a carol, and the ringing of a bell can make us teary-eyed. We get, in short, very sentimental.

The sentimental side of Christmas has its value. It can remind us to appreciate each other and to share with those who have less than we do. But we also have to be a little wary of it because the liturgy, our greatest catechist, teaches us that there is nothing “sentimental” about Christmas. Indeed, if we look only at the texts of the liturgy, we discover that Christmas is the “feast of our salvation” (Collect, Vigil Mass), the “beginning of our redemption” (Prayer over the Offerings, Vigil Mass). Christmas is about the restoration of order to the universe, as God and humanity are united once more

Upcoming Music

DECEMBER

24/25

Nativity of the Lord

4:00pm Mass

Children's Christmas Choir

6:00pm Mass

Praise Team

9:30pm

Caroling

10:00pm Mass

Sanctuary Choir

9:30am Mass

Sanctuary Choir

DECEMBER 26

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

8:30am Mass

Cantor & Congregation

10:30am Mass

Cantor & Congregation



through the sonship of Jesus Christ: “by our communion with God made man, / may we become more like him / who joins our lives to yours” (Prayer over the Offerings, Mass at Midnight). Christmas is a feast of light, a light that shines not only on us, but in us: “we are filled with the new light / by the coming of your Word among us,” (Collect, Mass at Dawn).

There is no nostalgia in these Christmas liturgies. Instead, they are solemn, joyful, yet urgent. They make it clear that Christmas, while it recalls the historical fact of Christ’s birth long ago in Bethlehem, is less about *then* than it is about *now*—today! The liturgy emphasizes our participation in the mystery of the Incarnation. The “today” of Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds becomes our “today.”

THE OCTAVE AND SEASON OF CHRISTMAS: Like Easter, Christmas is too big for just one day: it overflows into a special season of its own. The octave (eight) days of Christmas are celebrated with special solemnity. On the Sunday within the octave we continue to celebrate the reality of Christ’s Incarnation, from a different perspective, with the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. The octave concludes with the solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, on January 1, the first great solemnity of Mary in the Church. The Christmas season continues with the solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. This great solemnity honors the “manifestation” of Christ. Epiphany is traditionally celebrated on the twelfth day after Christmas (January 6), but in places where Epiphany is not a national holiday it is transferred to Sunday. This year it falls on January 2. The Christmas season concludes with the celebration of the feast of the Baptism of the Lord (January 9). With his baptism, the so-called hidden years of Jesus’ life come to an end, and his public ministry commences. We enter Ordinary Time.

*From the Sourcebook for Sundays, Seasons, and Weekdays
 With permission*

Faith Formation

Teach and Live the Gospel

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

Today is a RE.A.CH day
at Home

Next Church Session: January 16

Check your Annual Plan for Home Sessions



One used book, CD or DVD

=

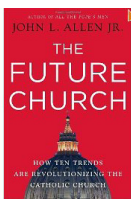
One Homeless Child's Life
Changed for One Day

Drop off useable books, CD's, DVD's at the Faith Formation Office while you're out Christmas shopping for new ones.

(Pick up some gift certificates
while you're here!)



Fr. Mike's Bookies



Fr. Mike will lead the discussion on *The Future Church* over three months beginning January 19. It is an interesting read, but it takes time to digest and absorb it.

It is available at the front desk or the Faith Formation Office for \$20. Consider reading it for your own broader perspective on the Catholic Church: where it has come from and where it is going. (See page 5 for more details.)



PBJ Update

Food for children
at the Emergency Crisis Center

2011 Goal:	365
Collected to date:	33

Youth Ministry

EPIC

(Encrypting People in Christ)
Middle School

Beginning in the new year, January 9,

EPIC is moving to Sunday Nights from 5:00-6:30pm.

We will meet on the opposite Sundays from RE.A.CH. What are you really excited about for Christmas? I am excited for many things! Come out and have a great time with us, and don't be afraid to bring your friends!

High School

✠ **IGNITE**

Thank you to all who came out this weekend for the Mall Hunt and Sleepover, I hope and pray you all had a great time. Monday, December 20, will be our last meeting until January 3. Every high school teen is welcome and encouraged to experience our faith in a whole new way. Bring new people and friends as we get to Christmas!

✠ **SENIOR RETREAT**

If you need the opportunity to get back into your faith, or for some time away to discover your relationship with God, here it is! We will be having a special retreat for high school seniors, January 21 - 23, 2011. Parishioners and friends who are seniors are welcome. This retreat will draw you closer to our Lord and allow you to see your faith in a whole new way before you leave for college or that next step after high school. Call Marc to sign up or for more information.

✠ **LEAD**
Leadership Team

If you want to get involved and make a difference in our community, if you are confirmed, come join us on Tuesday at 7:00pm for LEAD. We are on a new mission for our youth and our community; let's do something amazing. Do not be afraid!

✠ **Confirmation Class, 2011**

Be sure you have Sunday, January 9 at 9:00am on your calendar!

Marc Raymundo - 760-758-4100 x161 or marcr@stmoside.org

Marc

Stewardship & Development

Serve God's People

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

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

God is with us ~ How do we respond?

In today's Gospel we hear of the coming of Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." We celebrate three Advents: the birth of Christ, his Second Coming, and his presence in the world today. Our daily lives are attended by God's presence.

Indeed, "God is with us." The Good News of Christ's Incarnation is that we are the sign, "sacrament," of Christ's presence in the world. People are supposed to see us, see how we love one another, see how we treat the stranger among us, give comfort to the poor and afflicted, share the Good news with joy.

They see how good stewards are the light of Christ. And there can be no possible response except to say: "God is here!"

Daily stewardship thoughts from the Readings of Advent:

- † *December 19*
We have received the grace of apostleship. —Rm 1:5
- † *December 20*
The earth is the Lord's and all it holds. —Ps 24:1
- † *December 21*
The Lord is in your midst. —Zph 3:15
- † *December 22*
The hungry He has filled with good things. —Lk 1:53
- † *December 23*
Offer due sacrifice to the Lord. —Mal 3:3
- † *December 24*
Go before the Lord to prepare his way. —Lk 1:76
- † *December 25*
A child is born to us! —Is 9:5

—ICSC Parish Stewardship, December 2010, with permission

Opportunity Knocks!

North County Solutions for Change

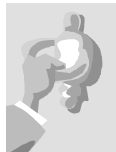
Don't miss the story of one community (our North County community) solving family homelessness, currently airing on **San Diego's CW-Channel 6**. Show times:

† **Sunday, December 19 at 6:30pm**

† **Sunday, December 26 at 7:00pm**

We also have a monthly dinner ministry for the intake shelter for Solutions for Change. This involves providing dinner on the fourth Sunday of each month for 25-40 people. Ministry groups are welcome to adopt any month of the year, and individuals are invited to contribute salad, dessert, main dish, or monetary gift to help with the larger meal on any given month. God is here. ~

To assist with this important ministry, please contact:
Kalei & Paul Mendiola, 760-945-9042, kaleiann@sbcglobal.net



Don't let your decisions be guided by your fears. —C. Knapp

HELPFUL YEAR-END PLANNING TIPS GOT DEDUCTIONS?

2010 YEAR-END CHECKLIST

- ◆ **BE SURE TO COMPLETE** all gifts by December 31 to qualify for tax savings on this year's tax return. **Advance planning with the parish office is essential, since the office will be closed from December 22 at noon/January 3, 2011. Gifts received in the offertory at Masses the weekend of December 25/26 will be credited for year ending 2010.**
- ◆ **Annual Catholic Appeal payments?** Any parishioners with a balance due on their pledges made to this year's ACA are requested to conclude their payments by December 31, 2010. Thanks to all who have fulfilled their pledges! (*Tithing families, know that your tithe covers your ACA contribution.*)
- ◆ **Envelopes POSTMARKED by Friday, December 31, 2010 will be counted toward this tax year.**
- ◆ Keep all gift receipts and acknowledgment letters, especially for gifts of \$250 or more.
- ◆ If you sold securities this year and will owe capital gains tax, remember that gifts of cash or other securities may partially or fully offset any tax on your gains.
- ◆ As 2010 draws to a close, and you review your financial situation for you IRS returns, you may have an opportunity for greater charitable giving before the end of this year.

For further information, please contact:

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

All gifts to St. Thomas More are deeply appreciated!

Collection for Week of December 11/12, 2010

Number of Registered Households		1,012
Offertory*	\$	7,340.24
Offertory (Loose Collection)		1,086.00
Children's envelopes		1.00
Total	\$	8,427.24

* 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).

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.

News from the Larger Church

Volunteer Tutors Needed—Young African immigrant woman needs help in math and science for college entrance qualification. To volunteer, call Sr. Jean or Sr. Sheila at 760-917-2058.

St. Patrick Catholic School in Carlsbad—accepting applications for the 2011-2012 academic year (kindergarten-eighth grade). For more information, contact 760-729-1333 x105 or www.stpaddys.org.

Retreats and Presentations at Mission San Luis Rey in Oceanside—For more information, contact 760-757-3659 or www.sanluisrey.org.

EWTN Global Catholic Network—will carry live Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses from Rome and Washington, DC, plus the Pope's blessing and message to the world. For more information or to locate EWTN in our area, go to www.ewtn.com.

Young Adult Ministry Activities in San Diego County—Visit www.yamsd.org for complete information on events for young adults, including a New Year's Eve celebration on December 31.

Women's Retreat at Mission San Luis Rey in Oceanside—Join Fr. Larry Dolan, OFM, on Saturday, January 8, 10:00am-1:00pm for a Women's Spiritual Day of Reflection. At the beginning of a new year, we will contemplate the tension between the old and the new, the issues of conservative and progressive in the Church and the world today. \$20 includes lunch. For more information, contact 760-757-3659 or visit www.sanluisrey.org.

Serenity Retreat with Fr. Tom Weston, SJ, at Mission San Luis Rey in Oceanside—January 28-30, for men and women in recovery from alcoholism and addiction. For more information, contact 760-757-3659 or www.sanluisrey.org.

Retreat for Widowed, Divorced, and Separated Persons at Prince of Peace Abbey in Oceanside—January 28-30, 2011. A trained team of peers leads participants through a healing and growth experience. For further information, call Cathy at 619-222-9093 or Maureen at 619-447-0622.

Healing Ministry in Solana Beach—St. James Healing Ministry offers Healing Prayer in either the Adoration Chapel or the Church at the following times: Every Sunday after the 9:00am Mass; First Mondays from 9:00-10:00am.; Second Tuesdays from 6:00-7:15pm, and on Third Saturdays after the 5:00 pm Mass. The next Healing Mass is scheduled for Wednesday, January 26, at 7:00pm, preceded by music and testimony at 6:30pm. All are welcome.

Separated/Divorced Support Group in Solana Beach—If you are in pain from a separation or divorce, please consider joining our support group. We meet 10:15am Sunday mornings at St. James Catholic Church Ministry Center Offices, 625 S. Nardo, Solana Beach. For additional information please contact Frank Grant at 760-533-1520 or fwgrant@earthlink.net.

Natural Family Planning (NFP) Classes in San Diego—Sympto-thermal method (99.6% effective). For more information or to register, contact Dave & Cheryl Ross at 619-303-5053 or davidandcheryl@cox.net.

Marriage Encounter Program in San Diego—January 28-30. Resolving to have a better relationship in the new year? Choose a Marriage Encounter weekend to start that process! For more information, contact barfife@cox.net or 866-473-7730.

News from St. Francis Church—Our Neighbor

Offering beyond the basics St. Francis Catholic School

While providing students with the opportunity to grow in faith and academics, St. Francis School also offers a variety of programs to enrich individual student development in areas beyond the classroom.



Celebrate Catholic Schools Week with us.
January 31 - February 4, 2011

Call today 760-630-7960 or visit www.sfs-vista.org.



St. Francis School is now our Parish School. St. Thomas More Parishioners are extended the same benefits and rewards as a St. Francis Parishioner, including:

- Parishioner priority for enrollment at St. Francis School,
- Financial aid opportunities, and
- Equal tuition rates,
- Fundraising support.



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www.stmoside.org · parishoffice@stmoside.org

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

Parish Contacts

Updated 11/21/10

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

- Religious Education (Adults)..... Wayne Zych 760-598-9244
- Small Church Communities Sondra Parks 760-598-1269
- Little Rock Bible Studies Pauline Lapre 760-727-8339
- Religious Education (Children)..... Kathleen Bell 760-758-4100 x110
- Liturgy of the Word for Children..... Cathy Meyer 760-598-7853
- Sacramental Preparation..... Kathleen Bell 760-758-4100 x110
- Mid. Sch. Youth Ministry Marc Raymundo 760-758-4100 x161
- High School Youth Ministry..... Marc Raymundo 760-758-4100 x161
- Young Adult Ministry..... Marc Raymundo 760-758-4100 x161
- Women's Ministry Joleen Schanzanbach 760-458-2973
- Men's Ministry..... John Fredette 760-758-1973
- Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs..... Regina Aulisio 760-295-5530
- Evangelization..... Available
- Vocations Available
- RCIA..... Kathleen Bell 760-758-4100 x110

LiturgyKathy Arciero 760-231-1022

- Altar Linen Care Anna Meyers 760-727-4998
- Bereavement Facilitator Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131
- Environment & Art Mary Castle 760-727-3097
- Eucharistic Adoration Available
- Interior Design Team Pat & Phil Goscienski 760-732-1414
- Liturgical Ministries..... Douglas Lynn 760-758-4100 x140
- Liturgical Music..... Douglas Lynn 760-758-4100 x140

Marriage & Family Life Jen Frost 760-758-4100 x100

- ACTTS Young Adults Jen Frost actts@stmoside.org
- Theresa Goeltz 760-453-2876
- Family Services..... Rev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100
- Marriage Preparation..... Rev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100
- Widows & Widowers of North County..... Carol Kope 760-758-4100
- Germaine Wilmott 760-758-9949

Parish Organizations & Events..... Lisa & Pat Attardo 760-940-1505

- Golf Classic..... Jim & Suzy Bailey 760-754-1635
- Historian..... Anne Marshall 760-727-2668
- Knights of Columbus Matt Perun 760-734-1934
- Spirited Seniors..... Judy & Jerry Buoniconti 760-758-5113
- Women's Guild..... Valerie Thompson 760-630-1703

Social Ministries Dick & Charlene Belprez 760-295-1431

- Blood Drive..... Linda Dicus 760-726-5081
- Bereavement Follow-up Support Linda Dicus 760-726-5081

- Brother Benno's Collections..... Available
- Brother Benno's Kitchen Servers George Jones 760-940-9288
- Christmas Angel Ministry..... John & Marti Harper 760-724-1181
- Culture of Life Jane Kelleher 760-822-7041
- CPR/AED Classes..... Phil Goscienski 760-732-1414
- Disability Facilitation Ann Eriksson 760-599-7151
- Faith Works Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131
- Fraternity & Michaelle House..... Diantha Zschoche 760-685-0081
- Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice
- Joyce Meehan 760-724-4974
- Jail Ministry Rita McCarthy 760-758-4100 x100
- JustFaith..... Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131
- Cathy Blecki 760-603-8930
- More's Workers..... Jerry Gayvert 760-295-0645
- North County Solutions for Change (NCSC)
- Dick & Charlene Belprez 760-295-1431
- Prayer Request Line..... Pat Wong 760-806-1310
- Norma Flanagan 760-630-0180
- Project Linus..... Mary Coxon 760-599-8760
- Sick & Homebound (*Eucharist*) Jean McCloskey 760-643-2363
- Sister Parish Program..... Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131
- Social Justice Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131
- St. Bonaventure Mission..... Knights of Columbus 760-734-1934

Office Support..... Henny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100

- General Support..... Henny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100
- Chair Set-Up..... Lorraine Doering 760-758-4100 x102
- Kitchen Overseer Agnes Bolsakov 760-473-8461

Development Council Committees

- Annual Catholic Appeal..... Flora Fallone 760-758-4100 x100
- Capital Campaign Bill Ipsen 760-723-0402
- New Construction Brian Leahey 760-598-5697
- Parish Membership Louise Briseno 760-726-4496
- Planned Giving Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120
- Publicity/Public Relations..... Anne Marshall 760-727-2668
- Sacrificial Giving/Tithing Paul Ibbetson 760-734-1051
- Scrip Sales Theresa Goeltz 760-453-2876
- Stewardship Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120
- Vehicle Donations..... Vlad Bolsakov 760-758-4100 x100
- Welcome Ministry Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor	760-758-4100 x100	michaelr@stmoside.org
Deacon Tom Goeltz	760-758-4100 x100	thomasg@stmoside.org
Sr. Maureen Brown, Pastoral Associate	760-758-4100 x131	maureenb@stmoside.org
Kathleen Bell, Director of Faith Formation	760-758-4100 x110	kathleenb@stmoside.org
Marc Raymundo, Youth Advocate	760-758-4100 x161	marcr@stmoside.org
Stacey Griffin, Faith Formation Office Assistant	760-758-4100 x110	staceyg@stmoside.org
Douglas Lynn, Director of Liturgy and Music	760-758-4100 x140	douglasl@stmoside.org
Kathy Santy, Assistant Music Director	760-758-4100 x100	kathys@stmoside.org
Sally Fay, Organist/Choir Accompanist	760-758-4100 x100	sallyf@stmoside.org
Chris Smith, Director of Stewardship and Development	760-758-4100 x120	chriss@stmoside.org
Joe Garcia, Director of Maintenance	760-758-4100 x151	joeg@stmoside.org
Henny Jocelyn, Receptionist/Secretary	760-758-4100 x100	hennyj@stmoside.org
Natalie Provinse, Bookkeeper	760-758-4100 x104	nataliep@stmoside.org
Lorraine Doering, Parish Office Technician	760-758-4100 x102	lorrained@stmoside.org

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