

Church of St. Thomas More

A Roman Catholic Parish in the Diocese of San Diego

Spirituality † Tradition † Community



Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor

Deacon Thomas A. Goeltz

1450 South Melrose Drive, Oceanside, CA 92056

760-758-4100 • 760-758-4165 fax

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

parishoffice@stmoside.org • www.stmoside.org



StThomasMoreRCC



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 11, 2011 • Third Sunday of Advent

Pastor's Column

The Holiday Season

Recently, a friend of mine went to the Post Office to buy stamps. He said, "I would like some religious Christmas stamps." The clerk queried, "Oh, do you want Hanukkah or Kwanzaa stamps?" A bit dumb-founded, my friend asked again, "I want religious Christmas stamps!" The clerk then responded, "Oh, so you want Christian Christmas stamps. You want the Madonna and child." Exasperated, my friend simply said, "Yes," bought his stamps and went home.

This conversation is humorous, and it displays a delightful ignorance on the part of the clerk, but it



(Continued on page 2)



What's Inside?

Come to a virtual tour of the interior
of our new church!

Wednesday, December 14, at 7:00pm

See
page 7
for
more
details.

Did You Know?

This year Christmas Day falls on a Sunday. I know that many of you will really like that because it means only coming to Mass once that week. It is like a "two for one special." For a Pastor, though, this means a very real potential loss of significant revenue. My guess is that we could lose about \$10,000 in revenue because people give only once instead of twice (once for Christmas and once for the Sunday).

Please keep this in mind. Consider an extra gift or two between now and Christmas so that we do not lose that revenue. Also on Christmas remember to "give twice." Your gifts are needed more than ever as we begin construction of our Permanent Church and Parish Offices.



Our Mission is to: worship God,

In addition to Mass, Reconciliation, and Eucharistic Adoration (see page 1 for schedules), there are opportunities to participate in liturgical and music ministries.

*For further information, contact Douglas Lynn,
Director of Liturgy and Music,
at 760-758-410 x140 or douglasl@stmoside.org*

Matrimony (9 months advance notice required),
communion for the sick/homebound, and anointing
are available by request

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

teach and live the Gospel of Jesus Christ,

There are programs for faith development and enrichment for all ages, including preparation for receiving the sacraments.

*For further information, contact Kathleen Bell,
Director of Faith Formation,
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 (see page 10).

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

See page 10 or www.stmoside.org for more details.

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?

For information, call Kathleen Bell at 760-758-4100 x110.

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 \$22,300
from this program. Thank you donors!**



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

Pastor's Column (continued from page 1)

also reflects a misunderstanding, that is, I believe, commonplace in our culture today.

Christmas has become "The Holiday Season," the time between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day. Now devoid of most of its religious roots and meaning, it has become a time for celebration, good will, and commitment to family and community.

Celebrating "The Holiday Season" is a good thing, not a bad thing! It strengthens us as a people and creates a desire to reach out to one another in care and concern. It also creates a neutral umbrella under which people of all faiths and people with no faith can come together and mutually celebrate the strengthening of our community and society.

But as we do so, we should not remain ignorant, or not share the proper meanings, for fear of offending others, of the various feasts that we celebrate.

We need to be aware that the roots of "The Holiday Season" are Christian. Christians are celebrating the Feast of the Incarnation, the birth of the Christ, the Messiah, who came in the person of Jesus of Nazareth some 2,000 years ago. Christians believe that God became flesh in the person of Jesus. That is the origin and reason for this time that so many Americans now simply call "The Holiday Season."

The Christmas Season, for Christians, begins on December 25 and continues through the Feast of Epiphany on January 6. It is from this celebration that the song "The Twelve Days of Christmas" is derived.

So in our "Holiday Season," one feast we celebrate is the Christian Feast of Christmas.

Also in this "Holiday Season," the Jewish feast of Hanukkah takes place. Hanukkah is an eight-day celebration also called "The Festival of Lights." This feast celebrates the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem in 165BC. This year Hanukkah begins on December 20 and continues until December 28.

Hanukkah is not a Christmas celebration. It is a Jewish feast that falls within the cycle of what we Americans call "The Holiday Season."

Kwanzaa is a Pan-African celebration of family, community, and culture. This celebration, that has its roots in the first harvest celebrations of Africa, begins on December 26 and continues through January 1.

Kwanzaa is not a Christmas celebration. It is becoming an evermore-popular celebration that takes place in "The Holiday Season."

Celebration of faith, family, community, and culture is good! In "The Holiday Season," we Americans celebrate the Jewish Feast of Hanukkah, the Christian Feast of Christmas, and the Pan-African Feast of Kwanzaa.

May we enjoy this diversity and celebrate with each other, rather than claiming the Season for ourselves—for one specific faith or culture. But to honestly celebrate, let us know what we celebrate and why!

F. Mike

Readings for the Week Ahead

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

Sunday, December 11 (8)

Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1-2a,10-11

Luke 1:46-50,53-54 (Psalm)

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

John 1:6-8,19-28

Monday, December 12 (690A)

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Zecariah 2:14-17 or

Revelation 11:19a;121-6a,10ab

Judith 13:18bc,19 (Psalm)

Luke 1:26-38 or Luke 1:39-47

Tuesday, December 13 (188)

Lucy, virgin, martyr

Zephaniah 3:1-2,9-13

Psalm 34:2-3,6-7,17-19,23

Matthew 21:28-32

Wednesday, December 14 (189)

John of the Cross, priest, doctor

Isaiah 45:6b-8,18,21b-25

Psalm 85:9ab-14

Luke 7:18b-23

Thursday, December 15 (190)

Isaiah 54:1-10

Psalm 30:2,4-6,11-13

Luke 7:24-30

Friday, December 16 (191)

Isaiah 56:1-3a6-8

Psalm 67:2-3,5,7-8

John 5:33-36

Saturday, December 17 (193)

Genesis 49:2,8-10

Psalm 72:3-4,7-8,17

Matthew 1:1-17

Sunday, December 18 (11)

Fourth Sunday of Advent

2 Samuel 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16

Psalm 89:2-5,27,29

Romans 16:25-27

Luke 1:26-38

Prayer List *(Call 760-758-4100 x102 to add a name for four weeks.)*

Mary Alexander
Laura Allenfort
Emily Allison
Lucia Ambriz
Phyllis Bader
Mary Balli
Alexandra Banwell
Jean Carlos Barbosa
Jose Luis Barbosa
Patricia Barbour
Melody Batchelor
Clarice Bednarz
John Bennici
Regina Bentz
Roseanne Berg
George "Whitey" Betus
Mary Betz
Betty Jean Bielich
Sr. Annette Bower
Lynda Brady
Roy Bristol
Monica Broussard
George Brown
Janet Brown
Mary Bruzas
The Butler Family
Shelby Campbell
Brianne Campos
Claudia Caplinger
Paul Cassidy
The Castro Family
Lolly Cervantes
Pat Christopherson
Dick Clarke
Dolly Cole
Carl Coleman
James Coleman
Karen Flaharty Daley
The Daly & Hanratty Families
Beverly de Gelder
Judith DiMatteo
Sara Doge
Dave Dossman
John Drazkowski, Jr.
Bev Duncan
Sharon Evans
Chuck Fay
The Fiore Family
Dan Fletcher
Ryan Flum
Matthew Foster
Kathryn Franklin
Joe Freire
Carmen Garcia
Rick Gonzalez
Eileen Gough
Rosemary Haefelin
Susan Hallahan
The Harker Family
Elizabeth Harrison
Mr. Harry
Lilian Hills
Susan Hori
Iolanda Iacobelli
Eileen Jones
Paul Kennedy
Peggy Kiernan
Debbie Kinney
Dewey Kolbo
Sr. Anne Kremenik
Helen Kuhn
Carrie Labadie
Lillian Lachance
The Lamelin Family
The Laub Family
Christopher & Roland Lawrence
Tom Lawrence
Brandon LeBlanc
Myles Levine
Ashley Load
Cassandra Loretto
Lauren Loretto
Richard Lynn
The Lyon & Stewart Families
James MacArthur

Joaquin Maldonado
Nancy Marley
Chandler May
Bob McWilliams
Kalei Mendiola
Phyllis Minaya
June Mitchell
Nancy Moore
Conrad Murphy
Margie Myers
Cosmo Nocida
Helen O'Connell
Heidi Olson
Juanita Matamala Pacheco
Bernadette Padovan
Art Pallo
Douglas Price-Williams
Hal & Lorraine Radcliffe
Mrs. Radlinski
The Rasmon Family
The Reyes Family
Clinton Ritchie
Rita Ritchie
Joanne Robinson
Maria Rogers
Dorothy Rouse
The Russo Family
The Scharbarth Family
Kimberly Schlunt
Linda Schmidt
The Douglas E. Schulte Family
Pete Serle & Family
Bob, Joan, & Julie Shea
Elizabeth Shirzad
Richard Sikora
Jeanne Sisson
Mike Snyder
Nick Soltau
Fred & Gilda Spiegl
Darek, Vanessa, & Elba Spizewski
Dorothy Staehr
Ted Stanislawski
The Stephens Family
Pete Sullivan
Maria Surmenidis
David Sweet
Jim Thompson, Jr.
The Tiernan & Gayvert Families
Sarah Tillinghast
Stephen Toth, Jr.
John Treat
Mary Tysko & Family
Laurie Updyke
Arnie Velasco
Silvana Vettese
Bob Vita
Vanessa Vitiello-Koble
Ashley Wandell
Patricia Zavala
Bill & Katrina Zynda

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.
1st Lt. Jeffrey Bauer, USMC
PFC John Brandone
1st Sgt Christian Bull, USMC
Corp. Willie Deel
Lance Corp. Brandon Doyle, USMC
Grant Fischer
MSGT Steve Gallegos, USMC
Maj. David E. Johnson, US Army
Staff Sgt. Travis M. Meyers, USAF
Pvt. 2 Jess Phillips, US Army
Sr. Airman Robert Spear, USAF
Sgt. Charles Watts, USMC

Calendar Highlights

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

The Week Ahead

Dec 11 Liturgy of the Word for
Children at 8:30am Mass
Dec 11 RE.A.CH classes at church,
including high school
Dec 12 Advent Morning Prayer
Dec 12 Women's Guild Luncheon
Dec 14 Virtual Tour of the Interior
of Our New Church

The Month Ahead

Dec 18 Liturgy of the Word for
Children at 8:30am and
10:30am Masses
Dec 19 Advent Morning Prayer
Dec 24 Vigil of Christmas
Masses at 4:00pm,
6:00pm, and 10:00pm
(caroling at 9:30pm)
Dec 25 Christmas Day
Masses at 8:30am and
10:30am
Dec 26-Jan 2 Parish Office and Chapel
closed for the holidays;
Daily Mass as usual
Dec 31 Mary, the Mother of God
Mass at 5:00pm

2012

Jan 1 Mary, the Mother of God
Masses at 8:30am and
10:30am
Jan 9 Women's Guild Luncheon
Jan 11 Diocesan Council of
Catholic Women,
Oceanside Deanery,
at STM
Jan 14-31 Stewardship Awareness and
Renewal
Jan 15 RE.A.CH classes at church
Jan 22 Towers of Faith Reception
Jan 29 Groundbreaking for
Permanent Church and
Parish Offices
June 1 13th Annual Golf Classic

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 12 Sr. Millicent Peaslee, OLVM
December 13 Sr. Juana Pereyra, SJS
December 14 Sr. Damien Peters, FDC
December 15 Sr. M. Genevieve Pistacchio, CSN
December 16 Sr. Mary Potter, RSM
December 17 Sr. Mary Alice Prieto, DCJ
December 18 Sr. Barbara Quinn, RSCJ

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 10, 5:00pm
Perla Wade ☩

Sunday, December 11, 8:30am
Agnes Windhausen ☩

Sunday, December 11, 10:30am
Marge Heath ☩

Tuesday, December 13 8:15am
Sen Lew

Wednesday, December 14, 8:15am
Masako Streling

Wednesday, December 14, 9:30am
Isabel Gormley
Pacific Place

Thursday, December 15, 8:15am
Gene Bell ☩

Friday, December 16, 8:15am
Rita Mazzarella ☩

Saturday, December 17, 5:00pm
Harry Fallace ☩

Sunday, December 18, 8:30am
Bud Hazlett ☩

Sunday, December 18, 10:30am
Mari-Jo Porter ☩
Joseph Immerso ☩

Congratulations to

Marge & Jack Gillen

who celebrate their 57th wedding anniversary on December 11.

May God continue to bless your marriage, and may you be an inspiration to other married couples.

In Memoriam



Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Robert Castro, who died on November 19. His Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday, December 13, at 11:00am at St. Thomas More. Please keep his wife, Josie, and the family in your prayers.

Robert Daly, who died on November 21. His funeral will be in May 2012. Please keep his mother, Parishioner Dorothy Hanratty, and the family in your prayers.

Sr. Esther Reyes, who died on December 5. Her funeral arrangements are pending. Please keep her relatives, Parishioners Maria Elena Quiroz and Joe and Lucy Viramontes, and the family in your prayers.

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



Today is a RE.A.CH day at Church
Two-in-a-row at church

Helping Seminarians

We continue to collect laundry supply items and personal hygiene items for our seminarian, Ricardo Juárez Frausto, and his fellow seminarians. Bring items to the Parish Office. Thanks!

Advent Reconciliation Services at Local Parishes

Date	Time	Parish
Tue, Dec. 13	7:00pm	St. John, Encinitas
Thu, Dec. 15	7:00pm	Mission San Luis Rey, Oceanside
Fri, Dec. 16	7:00pm	St. Elizabeth Seton, Carlsbad
Sat, Dec. 17	10:00am	Mission San Luis Rey, Oceanside
Mon, Dec. 19	6:30pm	St. Mark, San Marcos
Tue, Dec. 20	6:00pm	St. Peter, Fallbrook

STM Scrip News

TRY US NOW! FREE Fundraising.
Earn money for the Building Fund AND
do your Christmas shopping at the same time!

Thanks to all who support our Parish Building Fund by purchasing Scrip gift cards!

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.

Social Ministries/Outreach

Christmas Angels

Thank you for bringing your stocking items in so promptly this past week. Now all the "star ornament" gifts and "snowflake" gift cards are due this weekend. Please return any remaining gifts to the office by this Wednesday, December 14.

Also, forty-three families have been adopted from the Camp Pendleton Naval Hospital program! That's almost double from last year! Fr. Ken is surely smiling down upon STM. Again, these family packages are due back to the Parish Office **no later than Wednesday, December 14.**

Thank you again for your time, talents, and treasures to assure the success of this ministry.

*John & Marti Harper at 760-724-1181 or
4johnnysangel@cox.net*

Culture of Life

The mission of the Culture of Life committee is to promote respect for life from the moment of conception to natural death. Our goals are to raise awareness of all life issues including abortion, humane health care, and end of life. We want to increase knowledge and participation of our Parish in all Culture of Life matters and to foster prayer and understanding throughout the community to achieve these goals. We promote several activities for Parish participation throughout the year. Our local pregnancy resource center, Birth Choice of San Marcos, and now Oceanside, is a main focus. Birth Choice counsels, educates, and supports women in crisis. The organization relies solely on donations and volunteers. Many of our Parishioners have volunteered and our group has yearly events, including Pennies from Heaven, Baby Food Drive, and the Epiphany collection to help them achieve their goals.

Another Parish event is the annual Life Walk. This benefits Life Perspectives, an organization with a two-fold objective, to assist in the healing of all who have been affected by abortion and to educate through a Whole Life Curriculum for faith based schools.

We also work closely with the Office for Social Ministry at the San Diego Diocese to make our Parishioners aware of all pro-life activities. For more information, please contact Jane Kelleher at 760-822-7041.

Birth Choice Milestones

Birth Choice just celebrated its first anniversary in downtown Oceanside. We are a Christian-based pregnancy resource center offering free pregnancy tests, ultrasound, and options counseling. Our San Marcos location will be celebrating their 25th anniversary in April. We have increased our hours of operation and are actively recruiting those who feel called to this ministry to train as volunteer counselors and join our staff in Oceanside. We're looking to the Christian community to aid us in accomplishing this goal.

If you have an interest in volunteering, please contact Mary Rose Stearns, Executive Director at 760-434-5063, or email at mrstearns@birthchoice.net.

Parish Events

Knights of Columbus News

The Knights are selling *Entertainment Books* on the Plaza after weekend Masses. They make great gifts!

They will also be selling religious-themed Christmas cards and "Keep Christ in Christmas" car magnets and bumper stickers.

Women's Guild News

Please join us for a Christmas luncheon on Monday, December 12 to celebrate Our Lady of Guadalupe and customs of Mexico. We have a special program and a delicious menu waiting for you. Please call Vera at 760-739-9061 or Siggie at 760-994-4727 for reservations. The meeting will start at 11:00am on the lower level of the Parish Center.

In January we are looking forward to our Chinese Auction at our monthly meeting. I hope you will join us for all the fun on January 9.

Remember our Christmas Raffle—if you haven't already done so, please send in your "green" tickets to the Parish Office by Thursday, December 15. We would appreciate your support. We will be having the drawing on Sunday, December 18 after the 10:30am Mass.

Looking forward to a joyous holiday season.

—Vera Bayliss, President

Attention Current and Future Altar Servers

Are you in grades four through eight? Have you ever asked yourself, "How can I serve my Lord and my church?"—altar serving could be for you! Join us on Saturday, December 17, 1:00-3:00pm, for an informational (with fun included!) event for all present altar servers and anyone wanting to know about altar serving.

For more information, contact Rebecca Eyer at 760-216-6553.

Walking Ministry Survey

Remember to submit your completed surveys by December 11. You may also fill out the survey online—go to the Parish website (stmoside.org), then click on Quick Clicks. For more information, contact Diane Pal at 760-815-2519.

Little Rock Scripture Study

St. Clement of Alexandria refers to John's gospel as a "spiritual gospel" because of John's desire to explore and explain the deeper meaning of Jesus' words and actions. Please join Little Rock Scripture Study beginning Wednesday, January 4, at 9:00am or Thursday, January 5, at 7:00pm for 15 sessions exploring St. John's gospel and the Johannine letters. St. John was moved by the Holy Spirit to write his gospel so "that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name" (John 20:31). Join your faith family and fellow sojourners at STM as we continue on our journey supporting each other with love, compassion and forgiveness as we listen to the living "Word of God." Registration forms are available at the information table on the Plaza after weekend Masses or in the Parish Office during the week.



Our Journey Into The Future . . . Together! Phase II ~ Two months to go! Groundbreaking January 29, 2012

Pledge Statistics as of December 5

Phase II		# of Families Responding
Total Responses	\$1,577,857	765
Still Needed	\$422,143	265
Total Goal	\$2,000,000	1,030
Total Collected	\$1,527,709	



† We have now heard from 74% of the Parish and we have collected \$1.5 million toward our goal of \$2 million.

† Please pray for our success in the final weeks of Phase II.

† **ADDITIONAL GIFTS WELCOME!!!**

† The quality of our build out is dependent on how much we raise and you are making this happen. Thank you to ALL of our donors!!!

www.stmoside.org; click on Our New Church.

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

Retirement Fund for Religious Share in the Care

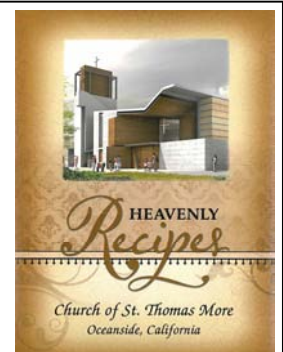
Envelopes were attached to the bulletin last week for the collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious, which helps to support retired nuns, brothers, and priests. Envelopes can be returned any time during December. Thank you! For more information, visit retiredreligious.org

Parish Cookbook

Be sure to pick up one of our Parish cookbooks, and maybe a few extra for your Christmas list.

Available on the Plaza after weekend Masses and in the Parish Office during the week.

\$15 each, \$15 for a CD version or \$25 for the pair.



Liturgy & Music

Worship God

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

ADVENT

A Sense of the Season

Kathy Arciero
chairs our Parish's
Liturgy Committee

Hey, there's a big tree branch up there!

Have you ever traced your family tree? Looked at old photos, read letters from grandparents checked your family bible for births, marriages, and deaths? We use the tree symbol to help us sort out relationships and how we got here. The symbol of a tree is a vehicle to tell the Story of God in the Old Testament and to connect the Advent Season with the faithfulness of God across 4,000 years of history. The Branch is a biblical sign of newness out of discouragement, which became a way to talk about the expected messiah. It is therefore an appropriate symbol of Jesus Christ, who is the revelation of the grace and faithfulness of God in His Incarnation.

The story begins with 1 Samuel 16:1-13—Samuel follows God's direction and anoints David, the youngest son of Jesse.

Samuel said to Jesse, "Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he arrives here." Jesse had the young man brought to them. He was ruddy, a youth with beautiful eyes, and good looking. The LORD said: There—anoint him, for this is the one!

And Isaiah 11:1-10—a prophecy of God's deliverance of the chosen people from exile and cessation of enmities:

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

Advent reminds us that we need to be alert to the signs of the times, the signs when Jesus is truly present. Advent teaches us that we first need to be patient. We can't be alert if we are in too much of a hurry. We need

to slow down, look around and see when, where and how Jesus is present. When we hurry we miss opportunities and moments to see and make Christ present. Advent teaches us humility. We can't be alert if we think that Jesus cannot be found in certain places and faces, like the silence of our hearts or in the faces of the lowly, the poor, the aged or those different from us. And Advent teaches us about hope. We can't be alert if we think that this world of ours is beyond hope.

Our environment reveals the color purple for Advent, the Branch and the Advent wreath with four candles to count the weeks until we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. This week we celebrate *Gaudete* Sunday—Rejoice in the Lord always! The pink candle is lit, our wait is almost over!

Thank you to our Banner team led by Joe Buhlert, Dean McCoy and Michael Provinse, and to Ginny Cornwell, Sondra Parks, Beth Brewer, Tim Wilbur, Carol and Larry Thompson, Siggie Ogan, Charlene Buhlert, and Kathy and Tony Arciero for implementing the design for our celebration. Thank you all for your stewardship of time, talent, and treasure!

We will meet on Monday, December 19 after Morning Prayer to install the Christmas environment...We could use some help! Please consider giving St. Thomas More the gift of your time! Call Kathy Arciero to volunteer!



Upcoming Music

DECEMBER 18
4th Sunday of Advent

5:00pm Mass
Handbell Choir

8:30am Mass
Praise Team

10:30am Mass
Sanctuary Choir



ADVENT

Faith Formation

Teach and Live the Gospel

Kathleen Bell

Director of Faith Formation

kathleenb@stmoside.org; 760-758-4100 x110



What's Inside?

**Come to a virtual tour of the interior
of our new church!**

This Wednesday, December 14, at 7:00pm

**See for yourself what hours
of town hall meetings and committee
discussions have accomplished!**

**Presented by the project's
Liturgical Consultant, Robert Habiger,
this extended presentation will make
our new church even more of a reality.**



PBJ Update

(Food for children at the Emergency Crisis Center)

2012 GOAL:

365 jars

Collected to date:

20 jars



YOUTH MINISTRY

**Marc Raymundo,
Youth Advocate**

**marcr@stmoside.org
760-758-4100 x161**

✕ High School IGNITE

***With all my heart and soul,
I will worship the Lord
in all I do!***

What does this even mean? Is this possible in this day and age? Christmas is coming and amidst our crazy lives, let us not forget to bring hope to everyone in our lives. Bring your friends here at 7:00pm. Let's do this together!

✕ Middle School EDGE

Next EDGE Class Sunday, December 11! Bring your booklets tonight for us to collect and analyze! It is always a blessing seeing you all here.

✕ Advent and a New Perspective

As we continue in this Advent season, prepare our hearts for a different mission, in hopes that our lives have made an impact this year. As a LifeTeen Parish, we have access to plenty of resources which help us to understand the Mass and its changes. If you want to see the video we used at youth group, please watch for the link soon on the new youth website:

www.stmosideym.org



**MINI COURSES
CONTINUE SUNDAY @ 6:30pm
(December 11 and 18)**

Stewardship & Development

Serve God's People

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

Christian Stewardship The Human Challenge in December

Probably nothing challenges a Christian steward's use of time as much as the seasons of Advent and Christmas. Each year, we marvel at the irony of it: a time to honor and ponder God's great mystery, the Incarnation, somehow falls prey to a time of stressful shopping, endless "to do" lists, strained checkbooks, and guilt over what's not getting done. Sometimes those nonstop Christmas tunes begin to grate on our senses.

How does the Christian steward answer this challenge to devote time to reflection and prayer while incorporating the best and most fruitful of our cultural traditions into this festive season?

One suggestion would be to set aside a special time of reflection right at the beginning of Advent for determining what our priorities for the season will be. Set aside an hour and begin by rereading the Christmas story in the Gospel of Saint Luke. Ask God to help you know what is the most generous and beneficial use of time in God's service during this season.



Ask for help in setting aside time for prayer each day. Don't be afraid to cross things off your "must do" list if they add stress to what should be a peaceful time.

Only you and God can determine the best use of your time. For instance, some people find annual Christmas cookie baking a reflective, creative time and a wonderful way to share. For others, it's a self-imposed burden and a sure-fire way to a messy kitchen and a calorie overload.

Likewise, that extra party may be just what someone needs to unwind and commune with friends while for another it may be the gateway to exhaustion or a temptation to overindulge in food or drink.

Ask God which traditions are life-giving for you, and be bold enough to leave the others behind.

"I just don't have time," is the frequent lament of the holiday season. But the Christian steward is aware that we all have the same amount of time, and to each is given an opportunity of returning the first fruits of that time back to God. The season of Advent offers just such a grace-filled opportunity.

—December 2011, ICSC Parish Stewardship (With Permission)

Ask God to help you know what is the most beneficial use of time in God's service during this season.

HELPFUL YEAR-END PLANNING TIPS GOT DEDUCTIONS?

2011 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 24, 2011/January 1, 2012. Gifts received in the offertory at Mass on Saturday, December 31 will be credited for year ending 2011.**
- ♦ **Envelopes POSTMARKED by Saturday, December 31, 2011 will be counted toward this tax year.**
- ♦ Donations received on Sunday, January 1, 2012 will be credited in the new year, 2012.
- ♦ Annual Catholic Appeal ~ Parishioners with a balance due on their pledges made to this year's ACA are requested to conclude their payments by December 31, 2011. *Tithing families, know that your tithe covers your ACA contribution.)*
- ♦ 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.

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

All gifts to St. Thomas More are deeply appreciated!

Collection for Week of December 3/4, 2011

Number of Registered Households		1,030
Offertory*	\$	17,767.22
Offertory (Loose Collection)		1,509.00
Children's envelopes		21.00
Total	\$	19,297.22

* 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 and Information from the Larger Church

Catholic Radio in San Diego—Includes Catholic Answers, interviews and discussions by Diocesan staff, youth programs, and more. Visit www.catholicradioofsandiego.com for details or tune in to AM 1000 Monday-Friday, 6:00-8:00pm.

Pregnancy Resource Center in San Marcos—Birth Choice of San Marcos, 760-744-1313 or www.birthchoice.net.

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

Retrouvaille for Troubled Marriages—Call 951-259-9474 or visit www.RetroCA.com.

Young Adult Ministry Activities in San Diego County—Visit www.yamsd.org for complete information on events for young adults..

Lectures and Retreats at Mission San Luis Rey in Oceanside—Visit www.sanluisrey.org or call 760-757-3659 for details on upcoming events, including a Serenity Retreat with Fr. Tom Weston, January 20-22.

Catholic Singles Group Christmas Brunch—Sunday, December 11, 12:30pm at the Beach House. St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Singles (all Catholic single men and women 40+ years). For more information and to RSVP, contact Liz at 760-943-8280 or st.elizabethcatholicssingles@gmail.com.

St. Patrick Catholic School in Carlsbad (K-8)—accepting applications for the 2012-2013 school year. For more information contact 760-729-1333 x105 or www.stpaddys.org.

St. Joseph Academy in San Marcos (K-12)—accepting high school applications for the 2012-2013 year. For more information, contact www.stjosephacademy.org or 760-305-8505.

News from St. Francis Church

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



For more information, contact the school at 760-945-7960.

Recycle your electronics at St. Francis School!—On January 21 and 22 you can drop off your old TVs, radios, telephones, cell phones, computers, printers, electrical cords and wires, just to name a few. We can recycle all forms of electronics except: auto/motorcycle batteries; light bulbs; and large appliances. Help protect Mother Earth and raise money for your Parish school. Please contact ptg@sfs-vista.org with questions.

Volunteers Needed to Help Distribute Gifts

Casa de Molina and Friends of the Poor invite you to volunteer at the 28th Annual Children's Christmas Party for Kids 0 to 10 years old on Saturday, December 17, 10:00-3:00pm at 4833 Morning Canyon Rd., Oceanside. Parishioner Vicky Molina works very hard to provide poor children with some Christmas joy. Please RSVP to Vicky at motherv5@cox.net.

Books for Change

Advent is a great time for cleaning shelves so that we can help the homeless help themselves! Here's how it works:

- Drop off useable books, CD's, DVD's at the Faith Formation Office.
- We will deliver them to North County Solutions for Change.
- There the moms (who are recovering from homelessness) will inventory and process the items for resale on Amazon.
- This gives the moms something meaningful and purposeful to do while they build the foundation for their new lives as productive and healthy citizens.

One used book, CD or DVD =

One Homeless Child's Life Changed for One Day

www.solutionsforchange.org

Marriage & Family Life Corner

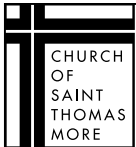
Are you interested in finding a small group focused on bringing the faith alive in their families on a daily basis? Perhaps you're the parent of a young child interested in finding a play group with a faith-centered focus? We have openings for both leaders and participants of our FAMILIA group—if you are interested, or know someone who is, please contact Jen Frost for further information.

The Bishops' Letter on Marriage—Faith, Hope and Love: “As the Church is a community of faith, hope, and love, so the Christian family, as the domestic church, is called to be a community of faith, hope, and love. Through this faith, hope, and love, Jesus, by the power of his Holy Spirit, abides within each Christian family, as he does within the whole Church, and pours out the love of his Father within it.” To read the document go to <http://www.usccb.org/loveandlife/>.

Marriage Moments—In Catholic tradition, December 12 is the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, when Mary appeared as an indigenous person. Have there been any miracles in your marriage (recovery from an illness, revitalization of your love, remembering to check the car's oil)?

Parenting Pointers—Technology both simplifies and complicates our lives. Perhaps your children will be getting a tech gift for Christmas. Think now about family guidelines and time limits for its use.

For more information, visit [www.diocese-sdiego.org/Ministries/Marriage & Family Life](http://www.diocese-sdiego.org/Ministries/Marriage%20&%20Family%20Life) or call Jen Frost at 760-758-4100 x100.



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Parish Contacts

Updated 12/4/11

Council Chairpersons: 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 Minsitry/Fellowship.....Debbie Fredette 760-630-1946
 Men's Fellowship.....John Fredette 760-630-1946
 Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs Regina Aulisio 760-295-5530
 VocationsDeacon Tom & Patt Goeltz 760-727-8442
 RCIA..... Kathleen Bell 760-758-4100 x110

LiturgyKathy Arciero 760-231-1022

Altar Linen CareAnna Meyers 760-727-4998
 Bereavement Facilitator Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131
 Environment & Art Kathy Arciero 760-231-1022
 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 AdultsJen Frost actts@stmoside.org
 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 760-726-0533
 Germaine Wilmott 760-758-9949

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

Golf Classic..... Skip Wilson 760-330-3293
 Historian..... Brandon Oswald 760-845-5450
 Knights of Columbus Matt Perun 760-734-1934
 Social ActivitiesHenny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100
 Spirited Seniors..... Judy & Jerry Buoniconti 760-758-5113
 Women's Guild..... Vera Bayliss 760-739-9061

Social Ministries Dick & Charlene Belprez 760-295-1431

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

Brother Benno's Collections..... Deacon Tom Goeltz 760-727-8442

.....Mike Nichols 760-822-3664

Brother Benno's Kitchen ServersGeorge Jones 760-940-9288

Christmas Angel Ministry.....John & Marti Harper 760-724-1181

Culture of LifeJane Kelleher 760-822-7041

CPR/AED Classes..... Phil Goscienski 760-732-1414

Disability FacilitationAnn 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 MinistryRita McCarthy 760-758-4100 x100

JustFaith..... Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131

..... Cathy Blecki 760-603-8930

More's WorkersJerry Gayvert 760-295-0645

North County Solutions for Change (NCSC)

..... Dick & Charlene Belprez 760-295-1431

Prayer Request LinePat Wong 760-806-1310

.....Norma Flanagan 760-630-0180

Project Linus..... Mary Coxon 760-599-8760

Sick & Homebound (*Eucharist*) Jean McCloskey 760-643-2363

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-UpLorraine Doering 760-758-4100 x102

Kitchen OverseerAgne Bolsakov 760-473-8461

Development Council Committees

Annual Catholic Appeal..... Flora Fallone 760-758-4100 x100

Capital CampaignBill Ipsen 760-723-0402

New ConstructionBrian Leahey 760-598-5697

Parish Membership Valerie Thompson 760-630-1703

Planned Giving Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120

Publicity/Public Relations.....Anne Marshall 760-727-2668

Sacrificial Giving/TithingPaul 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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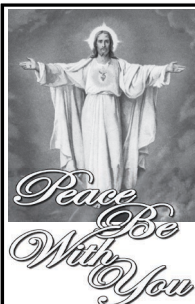
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