

A Roman Catholic Parish in the Diocese of San Diego

- ♣ Spirituality
- ♣ Tradition
- **†** Community

Mass Schedule

Saturday at 5:00pm Sunday at 8:30am and 10:30am Monday-Friday at 8:15am

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

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

Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor Rev. Karl Bauer, Senior Priest Deacon John Fredette 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





Experience God's Love!
Parish Reconciliation Service
Sunday, November 30
4:00pm

First Sunday of Advent November 30, 2014

Pastor's Column

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

Parish Advent Communal Penance Service: The Sacrament of Reconciliation— God's Unconditional Love for Us!

In recent years, a name change has taken place with the "Sacrament of Confession." We no longer call the act "Confession," but rather "Reconciliation" and/or "Penance."

This name change better reflects what happens in this celebration. We do not go to the priest just to list our sins, have them forgiven, and receive a penance; but rather, and most importantly, we come to the priest to celebrate the forgiveness of God that we experience in our lives. We come to the Sacrament with a sense of joy for what God has already done in our lives and what God continues to do—showering us with unconditional love.

The verbalization of our sins, the verbalization of the words of absolution, and the acceptance of a penance are steps in the process of celebrating God's forgiveness and unconditional love for us.

If we are open to God's love, we begin to experience the many ways in which God forgives us our sins in the daily occurrences of our lives.

When we ask forgiveness from someone we have offended, our sins are forgiven. When we accept the forgiveness of another, our sins are forgiven. Each time we talk to God in the silence of our hearts and sincerely seek forgiveness from God, our sins are forgiven. Each time we celebrate the Eucharist, we hear the words of the priest shortly before the reception of Holy Communion— "Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the lamb!" —our sins are forgiven.

So why go to the priest? We do so in order to celebrate the forgiveness of God we experience in our daily lives, to ritualize it, sacramentalize it, and, as in all things, to place our lives and God's involvement in our lives within the context of the Church, the Body of Christ.

The priest "stands in" for the community. As we verbalize our sins, we are mindful that there is no such thing as a personal sin. Our sins, no matter how personal we may think them to be, affect others— "No Man Is an Island." We live in community. Our lives always touch the lives of others.

Telling our sins, hearing ours sins from our own lips, helps us to be real and to acknowledge our weakness and our dependence upon God. It is so easy to rationalize our sinfulness when we talk to ourselves "in our heads." It is an entirely different experience when we hear ourselves verbalize our sinfulness. Those sins become much

(Continued on page 2)

Pastor's Column (continued from page 1)

more real! We become much more aware and sensitive of our responsibilities to others.

The priest "stands in" for Christ. Hearing the words of absolution, the forgiveness of God, from the lips of the priest is indeed comforting. You know how wonderful it feels when a family member or friend says, "I love you!" In the Sacrament of Reconciliation we allow God to say those words to us in and through the person of the priest.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is not something to be feared but to be celebrated with trust and confidence because of God's unconditional love for us.

This **Sunday**, **November 30 at 4:00pm**, our Parish celebrates her Advent Communal Penance Service. In this Parish celebration, a number of our young people will be celebrating this Sacrament for the first time. Your presence will also be a sign of support to them.

About fifteen priest/confessors will be available for you. They will be in Church waiting for you so that through the words of absolution God will once again say to you:

I forgive you and I love you unconditionally!

Will you be there to hear God's words?



Treasures Thank You

On behalf of the Parish and Finance Council, many thanks to the hard-working Treasures Rummage Sale team for netting \$10,223 in October. Special thanks to John Murphy, and all who donated, participated, and bought items to bring in this much money for the Parish! Your dedication to STM is very much appreciated!

—Fr. Mike

Want to Donate Online?

Our newly updated website has an online giving option! Go to www.stmoside.org and click on Donations, then Sign Up for Electronic Offerings.

Fully Catholic?

If you've been coming to Mass for a while, but are not Catholic, we invite you to look deeper into the Catholic faith. Come meet some faithful Catholics who love the Lord and would consider it a privilege to get to know you.

Our Parish offers sessions that give you the opportunity to share with others the truths of the Catholic faith and the fellowship of our church family.

We invite you to learn what Catholics believe in an open and welcoming environment. These sessions also are opportunities for you to ask those perplexing and difficult questions you may have about the Church.

Sessions are held Sunday mornings.

To find out how to get started, contact Kathleen Bell at 760-809-6526 or 80bell80@gmail.com.

Congratulations to

Darius & Elba Spizewski

who celebrated their 23rd wedding anniversary November 16.

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:

David Greig, who died on November 23. His Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, December 4, at 11:00am at St. Thomas More. Please keep his wife Dorothy and his family in your prayers.

Mary Louise Kranz, who died on November 23. Her Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Friday, December 12, at 11:00am at St. Thomas More. Please keep her family in your prayers.

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

Vocations

This Thanksgiving season, as we begin a new liturgical year, we are thankful for those who have answered God's call to serve as priests, deacons, and vowed religious. They have entered a vocation to share God's love with his people. Do you think you have a calling to join them? If so, contact Deacon Tom at thomasgoeltz@aol.com or 760-727-8442 and explore the possibilities.

STM \$crip News

Thanks to all who support the Scrip program! A percentage of every Scrip gift card purchased benefits our Parish Mortgage/Building Completion Fund. Remember, Scrip is available for purchase FIVE ways:

- 1. Online—visit *stmoside.org/scrip.html* and look for the logo below for more info!
- 2. On the Plaza after weekend Masses
- 3. Monday-Friday during business hours in the Parish Office
- 4. Email at scrip@stmoside.org
- 5. Phone at 760-758-4100 x150

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

STM Vehicle Donation Program

Do you have a vehicle you want to donate?
Call us, and we'll have it picked up operational or not!

You get the tax deduction!

We can accept vehicles without current registration and can file for replacement title if it has been lost.

As of June 17 we have netted \$52,402 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 B; Weekday Year I Readings online at www.usccb.org.

Sunday, November 30 (2) First Sunday of Advent Isaiah 63:16b-17,19b;64:2-7 Psalm 80:2-3,15-16,18-19 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Matthew 13:33-37

Monday, December 1 (175) Isaiah 2:1-5 Psalm 122:1-9

Mark 8:5-11 Tuesday, December 2 (176)

Isaiah 11:1-10 Psalm 72:1-2,7-8,12-13,17 Luke 10:21-24

Wednesday, December 3 (177)

Francis Xavier, priest Isaiah 25:6-10a Psalm 23:1-6 Matthew 15:29-37 Thursday, December 4 (178)

John Damascene, priest, doctor

Isaiah 26:1-6 Psalm 118:1,8-9,19-21,25-27a Matthew 7:21,24-27

Friday, December 5 (179) Isaiah 29:17-24

Psalm 27:1,4,13-14 Matthew 9:27-31

Saturday, December 6 (180) Nicholas, bishop Isaiah 30:19-21,23-26

Psalm 147:1-6 Matthew 9:35-10:1,5a,6-8

Sunday, December 7 (5) Second Sunday of Advent Isaiah 40:1-5,1-11 Psalm 85:9-14 2 Peter 3:8-14

Mark 1:1-8

Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 29, 5:00pm Lorraine Kauffman &

Sunday, November 30, 8:30am Kathy Salter T

Sunday, November 30, 10:30am Rosary Leone &

Monday, December 1, 8:15am Susan Prestie 🕆

Tuesday, December 2, 8:15am Jack Williams &

Wednesday, December 3, 8:15am Janet Rose Dudek P

Thursday, December 4, 8:15am Alice Sullivan &

Friday, December 5, 8:15am Donn Wilmott &

Saturday, December 6, 5:00pm Nick Angelucci Sr. 4

Sunday, December 7, 8:30am Al Dragula 🕆

Sunday, December 7, 10:30am Jacinto Mangahas P

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

Changa Aguilera Ernie Aichele Mary Alexander Carrie Autrey Joshua Avery Brendan Bailey Jose Luis Barbosa Patricia Barbour Clarice Bednarz John Bennici Regina Bentz Lisa Berg Roseanne Berg Mary Betz Betty Jean Bielich Beth Brewer Janet Brown Todd Brown Katie Browne Jack & Mary Bruzas Anita Buerger Benjamin Bull

Tony Calderone Shelby Campbell Brianne Campos

Aria Cappeluti
The Vaughn Clevenger Family
Dolly Cole Carl & Dorothy Coleman

James Coleman Megan Connolly Steven Cresencia Lené Crowe Luisa Curci

Raren Flaharty Daley Beverly de Gelder Nick Del Sesto Hugo Delgado, Jr. Christine DeSantis Cecilia DeSimone Carole Dillon Edward Dolnik Art & Dave Dossman

Bill Draper John Drazkowski, Jr. La Vonne Dumas Jerome Elbacha Carolyn Erickson Ey The Esch Family

Angie Ewing Jason Fay Sally Fay Victoria Lopez Fenton The Fiore Family

Mary Fleming Rvan Flum Ernie Follis Eugene Franciscus Kathryn Franklin

Joe Freire The Greg French Family Brian Frink

Jim Gallagher The Joe Garcia Family Kathy Gardner Lois & Len Garth

Margy Gehlman Jack & Marge Gillen

Wendy Gonzales' Dad Rick Gonzalez The Greig Family

George Gritt Luke Guenst The Hagen Family Susan Hallahan Pat & Tom Hannon

The Harker Family Dorothy Harrison Barbara Hatem Heidi Heaton

Lilian Hills William Hokama Carol Holbrook Samara Hook Susan Hori

Mary Ann Houser Tina Hunter Iolanda Iacobelli The Iacobelli Ianni Family

Sue Johnston Laura Kater Dottie Kearney Paul Kennedy Connor Kerzie Peggy Kiernan Debbie Kinney Mark Kneisel Dewey Kolbo Tony Korwin

Andy Kowallek Ashley Opie Kowallek Helen Kuhn Lillian Lachance The Lamelin Family Mike Lavis Brandon LeBlanc Jeremiah Lemus

David Leué The Paul Leué Family

Ashley Load Shirley Loggins Cassandra & Lauren Loretto Jack Lucarelli Jeannie Wilson Lucarelli Joaquin Maldonado The Maldonado Family
The Maldonado Trejo Family

Paige Mansell Alexander Mathews Gloria Maupin Virginia McConnell Bob McWilliams Joyce Meehan Kalei Mendiola Phyllis Minaya June Mitchell June Montgomerry

Nancy Moore Elizabeth Muehlbacher Conrad Murphy Margie Myers Nida Navarro The Nelson Family Richard Obsitnik Fred Oey Bernadette Padovan Ethan Palm The Peveri Family Helen Pingtella

Perry Postulka The Joe Prokop Family Bettie Provinse Barbara Ramm Evelyn Richards Jan Riley Connie Ringel

Rita Ritchie Ann Roberds Lily Robinson Terri Rocha Maria Rogers The Rouse Family The Russo Family

Rachel Sainc Cindy Sanelli Linda Schmidt Joan Shea Elizabeth Shirzad Nick Soltau

Nick Solida Darek, Vanessa, & Elba Spizewski Patricia St. Pierre Sybil Staples Mike Sterling

Pete Sullivan

Julie Teare Tommy & Ginger Thompson Sarah Tillinghast William Tompson

Stephen Toth, Jr.

Stephen Toth, Jr.
Olivia Trejo
The Trejo/Beltran Family
The Trejo/Maldonado/Uribe Family
Barbara Upson
The Vasquez Family
Martin Vertson
Lucy Vienna
Vanessa Vitiello
Wilson Wanner
Kevin Watson-Graff Kevin Watson-Graff Jerry Wechsler John Whitton

Patricia Zavala Jeanne Zeltner

Calendar Highlights

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

Liturgy of the Word for Nov 30 Children at 8:30am and 10:30am Masses Parish Reconciliation Nov 30 Service at 4:00pm Liturgy of the Word for Dec 7 Children at 8:30am Mass Dec 8 Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Masses at 8:15am and 7:00pm Women's Guild Luncheon Dec 8 Spirited Seniors Winter Dec 11 Luncheon 2015

Twelfth Night Choral Jan 4

Festival

Celebration of Fr. Mike's Jan 18 40th Anniversary of

Ordination

Jan 24 Women's Prayer Breakfast Spirited Seniors: The Lion Jan 25

in Winter at Avo Theatre

Mar 1 New Member Reception

May 1 STM Gala

Deployed Military

Gunnery Sgt. Fernando Andrade, Jr. 1st Lt. Jeffrey Bauer, USMC PFC John Brandone Lt. Devon Czarzasty Corp. Willie Deel Chaplain Van Dinh Lance Corp. Brandon Doyle, USMC Capt. Branden M. Felker, USAF Patrick G. Felker, USN Grant Fischer MSGT Steve Gallegos, USMC Sgt. Alex Garcia Adolfo Granados, MD, U.S. Navy PFC Samuel Haro, US Army PFC Cody Madere Jeremiah Gabriel Nelson, USAF Thomas Kevin Nelson, US Navy Pvt. 2 Jess Phillips, US Army Nicole Rieger, US Navy Sr. Airman Robert Spear, USAF Sgt. Charles Watts, USMC

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

November 30
Sr. Theresa Monroe, RSCJ
December 1
Sr. Sanjuana Mora, CVI
December 2
Sr. Nora Murphy, OP
December 3
Sr. Sheila Murphy, RSM
December 4
Sr. Ancilla Murray, OCD
December 5
Sr. Margaret Murray, CSJ
December 6
Sr. Maire Naughton, RSM
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Social Ministries & Outreach

Christmas Angel Ministry

Many thanks to everyone for making the Christmas Angel ministry a success! The deadline for returning the ornament gifts is Monday, December 1. Please bring them to the table on the Plaza this weekend or to the office on Monday. The Camp Pendleton Adopt-a-Family gifts are due December 14, but can be dropped off any time. We will be hanging the Crowns for Birth Choice next week so there is still time to participate in the Christmas Angel Ministry. If you have any questions, please contact:

Lisa Seufert at leprechaun81@sbcglobal.net or 760-716-0977.

St. Bonaventure Clothing Drive

Thanks to your very wonderful generosity, our annual clothing drive was extremely successful, necessitating the rental of a second truck. Unfortunately, this left us several hundred dollars short in funds. If you would like to help, please contact Deacon Tom at 760-727-8442 or contact the Parish Office. Thank you and God bless.

Tax Receipts—Some of the tax receipts given during the clothing drive may have had last year's date on them. Please check your receipt and if it is misdated, contact Deacon Tom at 760-727-8442 or the Parish Office, and we will replace the ones in error.

Knightly News

Cards on the Plaza

Visit the Knights of Columbus table after each of the Masses to purchase boxed Christmas Cards, "Keep Christ in Christmas" car magnets, and stickers. For more information please contact Hector Tusei at 760-630-4770.

BBQ!

The Knights of Columbus is having a BBQ (Hot Dogs, Chips and Drink) on the Plaza after the 10:30am Mass on December 7 and December 14. Stop by and get your Chargers Tailgating treats and support your church and local charities.

Chargers Kick-off time on December 7 is 5:30pm PST against the Patriots. Chargers Kick-off Time on December 14 is 1:05pm PST against the Broncos.

A Closer Look Tour

You are invited to take *A Closer Look* tour of our church under construction with Brian Leahey, our Director of Construction, in between the morning Masses each Sunday. Hard hats will be provided and participants with reservations should meet behind the Information Table on the plaza by the fence at 9:50am. Tours will conclude in time for the 10:30am Mass. To reserve your spot, please contact Chris Smith at *chriss@stmoside.org* or 760-758-4100 x120.

Marriage & Family Life

Moms & Kids—Moms! The Moms and Kids ministry meets at local parks a couple of times per month. There are many other events within our community throughout the month posted on our private Facebook page. Join us! Contact Jen Abelson at jen.abelson@gmail.com.



Promoting Life, Liberty, and Religious Freedom—Marriage Unique for a Reason—For a wealth of Church teaching on marriage, statements by United States Bishops on marriage, and many other tools to equip ourselves in the efforts to defend marriage as a sacred union of one man and one woman, go http:// www.marriageuniqueforareason.org/ on the internet.

Bishop's Letter on Marriage—Marriage: Love and Life In The Divine Plan: Marriage and the Community— "The marital vocation is not a private or merely personal affair. Yes, marriage is a deeply personal union and relationship, but it is also for the good of the Church and the entire community." To read the document go to http://www.usccb.org/loveandlife/.

Marriage Encounter—Do you have a good marriage but want a little jumpstart? Would you and your spouse like to rediscover and reconnect with each other? Then we invite you to attend a Marriage Encounter Weekend. Weekends take place in San Diego and other Southern California locations throughout the year. For more information, visit www.wwme.org or contact Eddie and Sheila Murphy at 760-295-0008.

Marriage Moments—Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come (Mk 13:33). Death is not a welcome thought for anyone, but sad as it is, all of us will face death eventually. Are there any endearing words you want to say to your beloved? Don't wait.

Parenting Pointers—As we start a new liturgical year with Advent, discuss with your family one new habit each of you would like to develop between now and Christmas. Let lighting a candle on your Advent wreath be a time to remind you of your resolve to begin again to be a better person.

For more information, visit www.diocese-sdiego.org/Ministries/Marriage and Family Life or call Jen Frost at 858-692-7438.

Be an STM Supporter!

- † Use your yellow Mortgage/Building Completion envelopes
- † Use online giving (*stmoside.org*) to make contributions using your credit card or bank account
- † Consider a memorial item donation (see page 5)

Shop at Amazon.com?
You can raise money for STM while you shop!
www.stmoside.org/scrip.htm
scroll to the Amazon Smile logo.
Also remember to buy Amazon Scrip
and raise even more money for STM!

Parish Events

Attention Men!

Year three of "That Man is You!—The Revelation of the Father" continues on December 6 with the topic *To Touch the Heart of Man*. This year's theme, "The Revelation of the Father," takes an honest look at the challenges facing fathers in modern culture, considers the reality of fatherhood, and discovers a mystery far deeper than a simple biological reality. For more information, contact Deacon John at 760-758-4100 x104 or *johnf@stmoside.org*.

Women's Guild News

Can you believe it? It's time to make your reservations for our December 8 monthly luncheon meeting already. Please contact Vera Bayliss at 726-295-0059 or *vbayliss@cox.net* so we have enough food and settings when we celebrate Advent with customs of the season as celebrated in Sweden. It is also the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, so we honor her, too. Each year we choose a different country to become familiar with how our brother and sister Christians prepare to welcome Christ at Christmas. The program for the meeting will tell us of Sweden's unique customs, and lunch will reflect their cuisine. We will, of course, have our usual opportunity to win door prizes and raffle. Please call now. We have only one week to prepare for this special day. Holiday apparel is appropriate so dig out your red, green, silver, or gold to wear.

By now you have received the raffle tickets in the mail for our Parish drawing for cash prizes. There is one more weekend left to drop the stubs and your donation in the envelope to put in the offertory basket at Mass before the drawing. We hope you will bring yours then or drop it in the mail or in the office. We look forward to calling the winners with the good news of their prize. It could be you!

As we begin the season of Advent may the joyful anticipation of celebrating Jesus' birth bring peace to our world in the midst of distracting Christmas sales and Santa Claus.

A blessed Advent to you. -Ann Buko, president

Young Adult Ministry Activities

Visit www.yamsd.org for complete information on events for young adults, including spiritual, social and service events.

Christmas Gala—Saturday, December 13, 6:30-11:00pm at All Hallows Parish Hall, 6602 La Jolla Scenic Dr. La Jolla.

Also, search Office of Young Adult Ministry on Facebook.

Catholic Widows and Widowers of North County

Would you like to expand your social life and meet a group of interesting and friendly widowed people? For more information, call Carol Kope at 760-726-0533 or Gerri Wilmott at 760-758-9949. See the bulletin board on the lower level for our complete monthly calendar of social activities. RSVPs are required.

Our Mission is to:
worship God,
teach and live the Gospel of Jesus Christ,
and serve God's people in word and deed.

Memorial Item Donations				
Pipe Organ	\$850,000			
Church Doors (Bronze)	\$100,000			
Crucifix	\$75,000			
St. Thomas More Shrine (Tapestry)	\$75,000			
Memorial Garden & Reflection Garden				
Landscape Concrete Walkways	\$80,000			
Decomposed Granite Pathways with Header	\$24,000			
Melrose Landscape Slope	\$15,000			
Building Accent Lighting & Pole Fixtures	\$14,000			
Bench Seating throughout gardens	\$3,500			
Landscape Accent Lighting	\$3,500			
Drinking Fountains	\$2,500			
Olive Trees in 7-foot boxes (10) 9 available	\$1,400/each			
Audio Visual Systems				
Sound and Video Mixing Board	\$12,000			
Video Screen (Motorized 21-foot)	\$9,000			
Sound System Base Speaker	\$8,000			
Sound System Cabling	\$5,000			
Microphone System	\$4,000			
Overflow Parking Lot Mulch	\$3,500			
Pew Seating for the Church (1,000) 821 available	\$300/person			
Daily Mass Chapel and Choir Chairs (200) 128 available	\$300/each			
	11/24/14			

11/24/14

Memorials are a way of honoring those whom we love, whether they are living or deceased. Often, memorials are made for a special intention or in thanksgiving for a variety of blessings received from God.

Our Parish Campus will be a living memorial. All who help in building it will leave something to the community itself that will be used by generations to come. The good they do is not interred with them, but will remain to share in the divine activity of God here on earth.

Listed above are items still available for adoption.

All contributions will be recognized in a special memorial to be displayed in our Parish Memorial Garden.

For more information or to adopt an item, contact Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120 or *chriss@stmoside.org*



For more information on our progress, visit our website, stmoside.org, and click on New Construction.

Liturgy & Music Worship God

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

JOURNEYING TOGETHER TOWARD PEACE

by Patricia Datchuck Sánchez and Rafael Sánchez Alonso, from Celebration December 2014, with permission.

season. Peace is the gift bequeathed to his own by the risen Christ. During Advent and Christmas, the ancient authors and the sacred texts regale the praying assembly with the good news that ours is a God of peace who comes among us with hands full of comfort and a desire to shepherd us rightly. Ours is a Savior whose power is exercised in gathering us, in forgiving our sins and healing our wounds. Where our God is, there is justice and right, salvation and peace.

Peace is the hallmark of this holy

While some may define peace as an absence of war, our biblical ancestors offer a deeper and truer understanding. Etymologically, the Hebrew word *shalom* is derived from the Sumerian *silim* and the Akkadian salamu and means to be whole and uninjured, sound and healthy. When applied to the community, shalom describes a well-ordered harmonious society permeated by God's blessing. When used as a greeting, "Shalom" expresses a thorough concern for the well-being of another and the willingness to work toward its realization.

When Christians worship together, the sign of the greeting of peace is incorporated into the liturgical prayers. "Peace be with you," we say. "And with your spirit." Too often, peace seems to be relegated to greetings and prayerful wishes. True and authentic peace among peoples and nations remains elusive and seemingly unattainable. We cannot even point to all the spots on the globe that are in desperate need of the peace we celebrate during this holy season. We sing of peace, we pray for peace, we hope for and envision peace—but peace eludes us. Even in the land many call holy, the desire for power and revenge precludes any possibility of peace.

Amid so much conflict, it is difficult to hear the voices of Deutero- and Trito-Isaiah (Dec 7, 14) as they announce the coming of God into the midst of humanity. We can hardly hear the message of John the Baptizer, who calls us to repentance (Dec 7, 14) so we may worthily prepare ourselves to meet the God who comes. As Luke relates the narrative of Jesus, born of Mary and the Holy Spirit (Dec 21); and as he shares Simeon's prophetic prayer (Dec 28), how can we bring this good news to bear on the dreadful news that surrounds us on all sides?

We may feel like throwing up our hands in frustration and dismay at global issues. But instead, we can begin sowing the seeds of peace on a more local level. Chinese philosopher Lao-tzu (604-551 BCE) once said, "The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." We can take that single step on the long journey toward peace in the presence of our family, friends and all we meet on a daily basis.

During his long journey to end apartheid and allow peace to reign in South Africa, Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu said, "Peace comes when you begin to talk to the guy you most hate"—and you keep talking. Similarly, in her diplomatic efforts on behalf of the United States, Eleanor Roosevelt insisted, "It isn't enough to talk about peace. One must believe it. And it isn't enough to believe in it; one must work at it."

Mohandas Gandhi worked diligently for peace. The Hindu holy man and leader of his people in India believed that *lex talionis*, an eye for an eye, would accomplish nothing except to make the whole world blind. In 8 *Spiritual Heroes* (St. Anthony Messenger Press, Cincinnati: 2002), Brennan Hill noted that Gandhi's pursuit of peace greatly influenced a



Mark 13:37

Baptist minister (Martin Luther King), a Catholic migrant worker (Cesar Chavez) and a Catholic advocate for the poor (Dorothy Day). Gandhi himself often admitted that he was inspired by Jesus. Surely, the quest for peace should bring together people of every religion, both genders, all races, and every ethnicity.

As one who ministered to the poor in Gandhi's India, Mother Teresa often told her sisters that peace begins with a smile. "If we have no peace," she said, "it is because we have forgotten that we belong to another." Believers constantly practice remembering whose we are renew our efforts peacemaking in order to be more authentic images of our God, who is peace. Henri Nouwen suggests that we ask ourselves, "Did I offer peace today? Did I bring a smile to someone's face? Did I say words of healing? Did I let go of my anger and resentment? Did I forgive? Did I love? These are the real questions. I must trust that the little bit of love that I sow now will bear many fruits, here in this world and the life to come" (Seeds of Hope, Image Books, New York: 1997).

These questions and our truthful answers could be the first step in the long journey to peace. If we take that step together, peace will be nearer than ever before. After all, we belong to one another and to God.

Will you walk with me?

Upcoming Music

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DECEMBER 7 2nd Sunday of Advent

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5:00pm

Sanctuary Choir

8:30am

Praise Team

10:30am

Cappella Choir

DECEMBER 8 Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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8:15am

Cantor and Congregation

7:00pm

Praise Team

Faith Formation

'each and Live the Gospel

Matt Franklin
Youth Advocate
760-758-4100 x161; mattf@stmoside.org

Debbie Fredette Director of Faith Formation 760-758-4100 x110; debbief@stmoside.org

Family Faith Formation

Check Your Calendar REACH Meets December 7 and 14

We Celebrate FORGIVENESS

Sunday, November 30 is our Parish's Communal Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation at 4:00pm.

Come experience the forgiveness of our loving God, and bear witness and celebrate with our children who approach this Sacrament for the first time.

Alessia Janae Aguilar Daisy Aguilar Isabella Paulina Baratti Malia Solidad Barker Mikaela Soledad Chavarria Riley James Curran Raul Antonio Deju Sofia Diana Deju Charles C. Dennning Samuel Frederick Denning Jerome Elbacha Joseph Elbacha Megan Ferreira Sterling Aurelius Fiore Gianni Michael Foley Jonathan Louis Franklin Brook Michelle Furgal Alejandra Gonzalez Daniel Gonzalez Nunez Alexis Nacional Lew

Payton Tess Lochner Anakin Lopez Savannah Lopez Logan Kai McHenry Marissa T. Mendiola Amanda Myers Declan H. Newsome Xavier Diego Ortiz Jack Papazis Kaito-Emilio F. Parra Myri Thay Maria Parsons Tayla Lin Perez Kai Robert Schiller Ashlee Mary Smith Amelia K. Stechschulte James Surritt Terexa Thien-Ai Ha Tran ThienTin Ha Tran George Von Borstel Jr. Dante Gael West

Adult Faith Formation

COMING SOON! Part 2 GREAT ADVENTURE A JOURNEY THROUGH THE BISSE

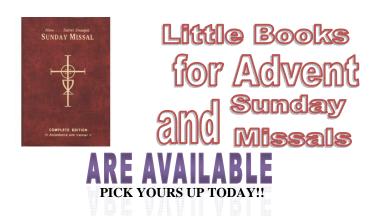
Wednesday mornings beginning January 14, 9:00-11:00am

This is the foundational study in *The Great Adventure*Bible Study Series that has helped hundreds of thousands of
Catholics learn to read the Bible.

Pre-Registration is Required

For more information, contact Patt Goeltz at *pattg@stmoside.org* or Debbie in the Faith Formation Office.

Part 1 Classes Resume Dec 3



teens



GUYS & GIRLS GROUP Every Wednesday Night 6:30-8:00pm

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Group
"LIFE NIGHT"
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Bring a bible and friend!

Attention Confirmation 2015
Class Families
Please join us for
M³
Saturday, December 6
Mass, Meal, & Message





Stewardship & Development Serve God's People



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



2014 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 Monday, December 22 and will reopen on Monday, January 5.
- Donations received the weekend of December 27/28, 2014, and the Wednesday, December 31, 2014, Vigil Mass will be credited in the 2014 tax year.
- Envelopes POSTMARKED by Wednesday, December 31, 2014, will be counted toward the 2014 tax year.
- Annual Catholic Appeal—Parishioners with a balance due on their pledges made to this year's ACA are requested to conclude payments by December 31, 2014. (Tithing families, know that your tithe covers your ACA contribution.)
- Keep all gift receipts and acknowledgment letters, especially for gifts of \$250 or more.

For more information, please contact:

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

Collection for Week of November 22/23, 2014

Total	\$ 13,845.72
Children's envelopes	0.00
Offertory (Loose Collection)	811.00
Offertory*	\$ 13,034.72
Number of Registered Households	1,136

Monthly Mortgage Payment: \$44,806

Mortgage/Building Completion Fund

	-	Income	Payment
September 2014		\$40,777	\$15,664
October 2014		\$38,989	\$44.806

Our first mortgage payment was interest only. The mortgage took effect on September 15.

It is important to note that neither our income in September or October was enough to cover our usual monthly payment of \$44,806,21.

It is critically important that there is an increase in Parishioner participation in the Mortgage/Building Completion Fund.

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.

Good Stewardship of Our Spiritual Lives in Advent

The First Sunday of Advent provides an opportunity for us to begin again and to prepare ourselves anew for the coming of Jesus Christ. We can use the coming weeks for personal prayer, growth, and change in the way we live. As we recall previous Advents, we remember those who inspire us through their faith and actions. We too can be memorable mentors and models to others through our demonstrations of stewardship.

When you say "Advent," what pops into mind? A feast of color, a traditional Manger scene bathed in candlelight, glistening snowflakes falling on trees, and a yearning for the One who is to come.



But sometimes, the season brings other images of treats that tempt us

with too many calories, crowded stores, limitless to-do lists and to-buy lists. Yet, in the back of our mind we hear the call to conversion. Christ is calling us to be good stewards of all that we have and all that we are.

- Begin by prioritizing what you want spiritually and in relation to friends and family.
- Discard all the "extras" and fantasy of the perfect Hallmark Christmas. List goals that bring growth, peace, and family.
- Take time to read the daily Advent readings. The little blue book is also your friend.
- Go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This encourages you to reflect on your life, gifts and if you fail to utilize them for the good of others.
- Pray for patience. Pray for those around you and lift them in prayer rather than seeing them as obstacles.
- Do not forget the poor in your community.

—partially excerpted, ICSC e-bulletins November and December 2014 with permission.

Our youngest granddaughter turned eight years old in October. Rather than receiving gifts for her birthday party, she requested gently used clothing that would go to the poor and homeless. Having seen children in very sad circumstances, she decided to do what she could to help. I believe others in her classroom might follow that lead in the coming year(s). The Girl Scout troop has a warm coat collection yearly, and she and my daughter deliver these.



Our family has been donating to various causes for many years, but I was touched to see that the newest generation jumped on board all by herself. Little eyes see more than we imagine. As the cold nights are upon us, may we continue to live by good example. —Advent blessings, Chris

Christ is calling us to be good stewards of all that we have and all that we are.

News & Information from the Larger Church

World Meeting of Families 2015—September 22-25, 2015 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This event, which seeks to explore the critical role the family plays in society and to give families opportunities to talk about the challenges and blesings that all families have, was started by St. John Paul II, hailed as the Pope of the Family, is sponsored by the Holy See's Pontifical Council for the Family and is held evry third year somewhere in the world. This will be the first time that the World Meeting of Families will be held in the United States! There is much excitement about the recent confirmation that Pope Francis will be joining us in Philadelphia. For more information and to register, visit www.worldmeeting2015.org.

Diocese of San Diego Social Ministry Office New Website: *www.socialministrysandiego.com.* Check it out and sign up for email notification of issues and events.

MISSIO App for Smart Phones—Connects you to the Pope and his daily messages. Learn more at www.MissioApp.org/bulletin.

Iraqi Christian Relief Fund—Over 200,000 Iraqi Catholic Christians are being persecuted, and have been left homeless living in dire conditions. St. Peter Chaldean Church in El Cajon is soliciting donations to help our brothers and sisters in Iraq. Visit www.IraqiChristianReliefFund.org for more information.

Annual Christmas Concert at Mission San Luis Rey—Friday, December 5, 7:00pm, Mission San Luis Rey, 4050 Mission Ave., Oceanside. Featuring Premier Brass and singers from the San Diego Opera Chorus. Dessert reception follows in the Sacred Garden. Tickets \$40-\$60. For more information, contact 760-757-3651 x161.

Beginning Experience Weekend for Widowed, Divorced, and Separate—December 5-7, Vina de Lestonnac, Temecula. A trained team of peers leads participants through a healing and growth experience. If you are willing to put your feelings of anger and despair behind you and desire a new beginning, this weekend may be for you. For more information, contact Linda at 858-335-0915 or Cathy at 619-222-9093.

Annual Casa de Molina Party for Children—Saturday, December 13. Parishioner Vicky Molina and her family host this annual party to benefit underprivileged children, providing gifts. If you would like to help by providing gifts or funds, please contact Vicky at *motherv5@cox.net*.

Annual Christmas Concert in Rancho Bernardo—Sunday, December 14, 4:00pm, San Rafael Parish, 17252 Bernardo Center Dr., San Diego. For more information, contact Therese Bulat at

858-487-4314 x1225.

Lessons and Carols Concert at Mission San Luis Rey—Sunday, December 21, 2:30pm, Mission San Luis Rey, 4050 Mission Ave., Oceanside. Presented by the choirs of Mission San Luis Rey and St. Mary Star of the Sea.

Catholic Charities Food Resource Center Has Volunteer Opportunities for YOU!—Drivers, Daily Food Packers, Intake Workers, and Calfresh (food stamp) Advocate. For information call Lisa DuMolt at 619-231-2828 x221.

Weekly Peaceful Prayer Vigil to End Abortion—Tuesdays, 9:00-10:00am, outside the clinic at 120 Craven Rd., San Marcos. For more information, contact Jane Kelleher at 760-822-7041.

Birth Choice Volunteer Counselors Training—Call Heidi at 760-744-1313 for details and to sign up. Birth Choice is a pro-life, Christ-centered pregnancy resource center offering free pregnancy testing, ultrasound, and options counseling for women in crisis. For more information, visit *www.birthchoice.net*.

Support Group for Separated/Divorced—An ongoing support group meeting Sundays at 10:15am at St. James Catholic Church in Solana Beach. For more information, contact Frank Grant at 760-533-1520 or fwgrant@gmail.com.

Mission San Luis Rey Retreat Center in Oceanside has an ongoing schedule of retreats! Visit www.sanluisrey.org for more details.

Retrouvaille for Troubled Marriages—A program designed to help troubled marriages regain their health. It helps spousesuncover or re-awakens the love, trust, and commitment that originally brought them together. For confidential information or to register for the January 9 weekend, call 951-259

Catholic Radio—AM 1000/Sirius 130—San Diego

Visit ihradio.com/sandiego

Online Rosary

Pray the rosary online—visit www.therosary3.com

Catholics Come Home

Do you have a family member, friend, or co-worker who has left the Catholic Church? If so, encourage them to visit www.CatholicsComeHome.org.

News from St. Francis Church

525 W. Vista Way, Vista ● 760-945-8000 ● stfrancis-vista.org

St. Francis School is our Parish School!—Families from St. Thomas More are extended the same benefits and rewards as St. Francis Parishioners, including:

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

Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish Celebrations—Several activities are planned related to Our Lady of Guadalupe from December 3-December 12, including a novena and Mass and Mañanitas. Visit www.stfrancis-vista.org for details.





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

Parish Contacts

Updated 11/04/2014

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

Pastoral Council Committees	Treasures Rummage SaleJohn & Wendy Murphy 760-497-6117
Religious Education/Faith Formation/Evangelization	Walking Ministry
Rory Griffin 760-414-3939	Women's Guild
Religious Education for Adolescents & Children (RE.A.CH)	Blood Drive Stacey & Morgan Espe 760-224-2699
Debbie Fredette 760-758-4100 x110	Brother Benno's CollectionDcn. Tom Goeltz 760-727-8442
Liturgy of the Word for Children Heidi Madden 760-529-2400	Brother Benno's Kitchen ServerGeorge Jones 760-940-9288
Sacramental PreparationDebbie Fredette 760-758-4100 x110	Christmas Angel Ministry Kevin & Lisa Seufert 760-732-5965
RCIA	CPR/AED Classes
Moms & Kids	Culture of LifeJane Kelleher 760-822-7041
Lia Haubert 949-322-6458	Disability FacilitationAnn Eriksson 760-599-7151
Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs Regina Aulisio 760-295-5530	Jail MinistryRita McCarthy 760-758-4100 x100
Youth Ministry	Prayer Request LinePat Wong 760-806-1310
Young Adults	Norma Flanagan 760-630-0180
Religious Education for AdultsDebbie Fredette 760-758-4100 x110	Project Linus
Bible Study	Social Justice CommitteeHenri Black 760-758-813
Centering Prayer Mary Williams 760-758-4100 x100	Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice
Men's Fellowship	Joyce Meehan 760-724-4974
Women's Ministry Erin Barela 760-580-5659	JustFaith Activities Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131
Vocations	San Diego Organizing Project (SDOP)
LiturgyKathy Arciero 760-231-1022	Craig & Mary Castle 760-727-3097
Art & Environment	Solutions for Change
Bereavement MinistrySr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131	St. Bonaventure MissionDcn. Tom Goeltz 760-727-8442
Eucharistic Adoration	Youth Justice Foundation Cherie & Greg Abrahms 760-598-6776
Interior Design Team Pat & Phil Goscienski 760-732-1414	Office Support
Liturgical MinistriesDouglas Lynn 760-758-4100 x140	General SupportHenny Jocelyn 760-758-4100 x100
Music Ministry	Chair Set-UpLorraine Doering 760-758-4100 x102
Sacristans—Altar Guild	Kitchen ManagerRebecca Eyer 760-758-4100 x100
Marriage & Family Life	Diocesan Pastoral Council Liaison Masako Streling 760-295-2594
Bringing the Celebration HomeJen Frost 858-692-7438	Development Council Committees
Diocesan LiaisonTrish & Daryl Resplandor 626-733-3832	Annual Catholic AppealFlora Fallone 760-758-4100 x100
Family Services Rev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100	New ConstructionBrian Leahey 760-224-1674
Marriage Preparation Rev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100	Parish MembershipValerie Thompson 760-630-1703
Widows & Widowers of North CountyCarol Kope 760-726-0533	Planned Giving
	Publicity/Public RelationsJane Gladden 760-659-6168
Parish Organizations & Events Lisa & Pat Attardo 760-940-1505	Scrip SalesMike Nichols 760-727-7522
Annual Gala	Andrea Sweeney 760-216-6389
Historian/Archives	Stewardship
Knights of Columbus	Vehicle Donations
Social Activities	Welcome Ministry Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120
Spirited Schlors	
Pasto	ral Staff
Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor	760-758-4100 x100 michaelr@stmoside.org
Rev. Karl Bauer, Senior Priest	760-758-4100 x133 karlb@stmoside.org
Dcn. John Fredette	760-758-4100 x132
Dcn. Tom Goeltz	
Sr. Maureen Brown, Pastoral Associate	
Dcn. John Fredette, Business Manager	
Debbie Fredette, Director of Faith Formation	
	760-758-4100 x161 mattf@stmoside.org
	760-758-4100 x110 staceyg@stmoside.org
Douglas Lynn, Director of Liturgy and Music	
	760-758-4100 x100
	760-758-4100 x100
Chris Smith, Director of Stewardship and Development Joe Garcia, Director of Maintenance	
Henny Jocelyn, Receptionist/Secretary	
Lorraine Doering, Parish Office Technician	
Brian Leahey, Director of Construction	
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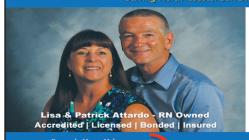
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December 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday	iwonday 1	1 uesday 2	wednesday 3	Thursday 4	Friday 5	Saturday 6
	8:15 AM-Mass 10:00 AM-Moms and Kids (South Buena Vista Park) 7:00 PM-High School Youth Group	8:00 AM-Walking Ministry 8:15 AM-Mass 9:00 AM-Donuts and Coffee 4:00 PM-Handbell Quartet 5:45 PM-Handbell Quartet 7:00 PM-Tower Bells 7:00 PM-Knights of Columbus	8:15 AM-Mass 9:00 AM-Adult Bible Timeline 1:30 PM-Spirited Seniors Board Meeting 6:30 PM-Guys and Girls Group 7:00 PM-Praise Team	8:15 AM-Mass 9:00 AM-Donuts and Coffee 1:00 PM-Centering Prayer 6:30 PM-Just Faith Ecology Graduate Group 7:00 PM-Sanctuary Choir 9:00 PM-Cappella Choir	8:15 AM-Mass 9:15 AM-Communion Service (Emeritus at Carlsbad)	6:45 AM-That Man is You 9:00 AM-Stocking Stuffing 4:00 PM-Reconciliation 2nd Sunday of Advent 5:00 PM-Mass 6:00 PM-Confirmation Family Potluck
2nd Sunday of Advent 8:30 AM-Mass/RCIA/LOWC 10:20 AM-RE.A.CH 10:30 AM-Mass 11:30 AM-K. of C. Hot Dog lunch 12:30 PM-RE.A.CH 4:30 PM-RE.A.CH 6:30 PM-RE.A.CH High School/Post- Confirmed	8 Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary 8:15 AM-Mass 11:00 AM-Women's Guild Luncheon 5:00 PM-Lead Core Team 7:00 PM-Mass/RCIA 7:00 PM-High School Youth Group	8:00 AM-Walking Ministry 8:15 AM-Mass 9:00 AM-Donuts and Coffee 9:00 AM-Bereavement Team 4:00 PM-Handbell Quartet 5:45 PM-Handbell Quartet 7:00 PM-Tower Bells	8:15 AM-Mass 9:00 AM-Adult Bible Timeline 4:00 PM-Staff Meeting 6:30 PM-Guys and Girls Group 7:00 PM-Praise Team	8:15 AM-Mass 9:00 AM-Communion Service (Pacific Place) 9:00 AM-Donuts and Coffee 11:30 AM-Spirited Senior Christmas Luncheon 1:00 PM-Centering Prayer 7:00 PM-Sanctuary Choir 9:00 PM-Cappella Choir	8:15 AM-Mass 9:00 AM-Moms and Kids Preschool 7:00 PM-Men's Fellowship	9:00 AM-Catechist Inservice 4:00 PM-Reconciliation 3rd Sunday of Advent 5:00 PM-Mass
3rd Sunday of Advent 8:30 AM-Mass/RCIA/LOWC 10:20 AM-RE.A. CH 10:30 AM-Mass 11:30 AM-K. of C. Hot Dog lunch 12:30 PM-RE.A.CH 4:30 PM-RE.A.CH 6:30 PM-RE.A.CH High School/Post-Confirmed	8:15 AM-Mass 10:00 AM-Moms and Kids (South Buena Vista Park) 7:00 PM-XLT-High School Youth Group	8:00 AM-Walking Ministry 8:15 AM-Mass 9:00 AM-Donuts and Coffee 4:00 PM-Handbell Quartet 5:45 PM-Handbell Quartet 7:00 PM-Tower Bells	8:15 AM-Mass 6:30 PM-Guys and Girls Group 7:00 PM-Praise Team	8:15 AM-Mass 9:00 AM-Donuts and Coffee 1:00 PM-Centering Prayer 7:00 PM-Sanctuary Choir 9:00 PM-Cappella Choir	8:15 AM-Mass 9:00 AM-Moms and Kids Preschool	8:15 AM-Chair Set Up 4:00 PM-Reconciliation 4th Sunday of Advent 5:00 PM-Mass
21 4th Sunday of Advent 8:30 AM-Mass/RCIA/LOWC 10:30 AM-Mass/LOWC	Parish Office and Chapel Closed 8:15 AM-Mass 5:00 PM-Lead Core Team 7:00 PM-High School Youth Group	Parish Office and Chapel Closed 8:00 AM-Walking Ministry 8:15 AM-Mass 7:00 PM-Praise Team 7:00 PM-Tower Bells	Parish Office and Chapel Closed The Nativity of the Lord 4:00 PM-Mass 4:15 PM-Mass 6:00 PM-Mass 10:00 PM-Mass	Parish Office and Chapel Closed The Nativity of the Lord 9:30 AM-Mass	Parish Office and Chapel Closed 8:15 AM-Mass	4:00 PM-Reconciliation The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph 5:00 PM-Mass
28 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph 8:30 AM-Mass/RCIA/LOWC 10:30 AM-Mass/LOWC	Parish Office and Chapel Closed 8:15 AM-Mass 7:00 PM-High School Youth Group	Parish Office and Chapel Closed 8:00 AM-Walking Ministry 8:15 AM-Mass	Parish Office and Chapel Closed 5:00 PM-Mass	St. Thomas More Catholic Church 1450 South Melrose Drive Oceanside, CA 92056 (760) 758-4100 www.stmoside.org		