

Our Holy Year Pilgrimage Church Door is open 7:00am-7:00pm seven days a week. Stop by for a visit!

If you'd like to help out by spending an hour a week in the church during these times, contact Evans Formica at evansf@stmoside.org.



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



followus on





Second Sunday of Easter | Sunday of Divine Mercy April 3, 2016

Pastor's Column

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

The Ragman

(please see insert)



Annual Catholic Appeal

Thanks to all those who have responded already!

Pledges to date: \$24,182 Families responding: 146 Average pledge per family: \$165.63

Our assessment this year is \$50,000—help us meet it!

Annual Catholic Appeal

You can make your pledge/gift online—go to www.sdcatholic.org.



Be merciful just as your Father is merciful.

www.sdcatholic.org

Considering Becoming Catholic?

Has Pope Francis ignited a spark in you to know more about the Catholic faith and become a member of the Church he shepherds?

If you are already Catholic, perhaps you have a new enthusiasm for your faith that you would like to share with a friend or family member who is searching.

Our lives sometimes go through seasons of change, of closeness to God and distance from God. Yet the Father's love is steadfast, full of mercy, and ever-present to those who seek with a sincere heart, no matter what sins or situations have caused separation.

If you have thought about becoming Catholic and beginning a new "season" in your life, contact Kathleen Bell, 760-809-6526, 80bell80@gmail.com.

When a Loved One Dies

Call the Parish Office first, before you call the funeral home. Call anytime, night or day! 760-758-4100 option 3

Our Parish has a wonderful Bereavement Team that is available when a loved one dies. They are available to assist the family with many arrangements related to the funeral, which might include meeting with the family to pray, helping to plan the funeral, and providing bereavement support afterwards.

In addition, those who like to plan ahead may meet with a Bereavement Team member to pre-plan preferences and place them on record, which can be a great help for children or other family members when the time comes.

If you have any questions, call Sr. Maureen at 760-758-4100 x131.

Facing Surgery or a Serious Illness?

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

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

Heartletter

St. Thomas More Catholic Church has reached another milestone: more than 500 members of the Parish have been trained and certified in CPR. We urge those who have not had this training and those who have not been certified within the last two years to take advantage of classes scheduled this month and in May. Classes will be held on Wednesday, April 6, 1:00-4:30pm, on Saturday, April 16, 9:30am-1:00pm, and on Saturday, May 21, 9:30am-1:00pm. Contact Dr. Phil Goscienski at 760-732-1414 or drphilg@cox.net to sign up for one of these classes.

Our Mission is to:

worship God, teach and live the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and serve God's people in word and deed.

Welcome New Parishioners Peter Princi Robert & Jill Montillano Joseph Spirito & Cari Bacon

Congratulations to

Chuck & Sally Fay

who celebrate their 30th anniversary of marriage on April 5.

Eddie & Sheila Murphy

who celebrate their 19th anniversary of marriage on April 5.

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

Local Hospitals with Catholic Chaplains Available

If you or a loved one is in one of these hospitals and need the ministry of a Catholic priest, please contact the Chaplain's Office to make the arrangements.

Hospital	Chaplain's Office
Tri-City	760-940-7954
Palomar	442-281-1328
Scripps Encinitas	760-633-7784
Scripps Green	858-554-3698
Scripps Mercy	619-260-7020
UCSD Thornton	619-543-2103
Kaiser Zion	619-528-5188

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.

STM \$crip News

Remember you can shop online and purchase instant Scrip: ScripNow. Check www.stmoside.org/scrip.htm to sign up.

Do you shop on Amazon? Use Amazon Smile (see www.stmoside.org/scrip.htm for details) and a portion of your purchase will be donated to St. Thomas More.

Scrip is now available after all three Masses. We appreciate your continued support for the Scrip program. For more information, visit www.stmoside.org/scrip.htm or contact the Scrip team at 760-758-4100 x150 or scrip@stmoside.org

Help Feed the Hungry

Pope Francis reminds us: "You pray for the hungry. Then you feed them.

That's how prayer works."

Our shopping cart is back on the plaza this weekend.

Thank you for your generous of donations of **nonperishable** food items.



Readings for the Week Ahead

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

Sunday, April 3 (45) Second Sunday of Easter Sunday of Divine Mercy Acts 5:12-16 Psalm 118:2-4,13-15,22-24 Revelation 1:9-11a,12-13,17-19 John 20:19-31 Monday, April 4 (545) Annunciation of the Lord Isaiah 7:10-14;8:10 Psalm 40:7-11 Hebrews 10:4-10 Luke 1:26-38 Tuesday, April 5 (548) Vincent Ferrer, priest 2 Timothy 4:1-5 Psalm 40:2,4,7-11 Luke 12:35-40 Wednesday, April 6 (269) Acts 5:17-26 Psalm 34:2-9 John 3:16-21 Thursday, April 7 (549) John Baptist de la Salle, priest 2 Timothy 1:13-14;2:1-3 Psalm 1:1-4,6 Matthew 18:1-5 Friday, April 8 (271) Acts 5:34-42 Psalm 27:1,4,13-14 John 6:1-15 Saturday, April 9 (272)

Acts 6:1-7

John 6:16-21

John 21:1-19

Psalm 31:1-2,4-5,18-19

Sunday, April 10 (48)

Third Sunday of Easter Acts 5:27-32,40b-41

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

Revelation 5:11-14

Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 2, 5:00pm Joseph Immerso ♥

Sunday, April 3, 8:30am Robert Riley ₺

Sunday, April 3, 10:30am Paul Johansing &

Monday, April 4, 8:15am Mary Buechler

Tuesday, April 5, 8:15am Phillip Ringel ♥

Wednesday, April 6, 8:15am Fred Gritzen ♥

Thursday, April 7, 8:15am The Ngoan Tran Family

Friday, April 8, 8:15am Diane Deem

Saturday, April 9, 5:00pm Lelan Wong

Sunday, April 10, 8:30am Carol Bolling 🕈

Sunday, April 10, 10:30am Frank Fallone ♥ Prayer List (Call 760-758-4100 x102 to add a name for four weeks.)

Changa Aguilera Ernie Aichele Changa Aguilera
Ernie Aichele
Mary Alexander
Christine & Cory Anderson
The Arce & Colfer Families
Carrie Autrey
Joshua Avery
Addison Abigail Aviña
Rosemary Ballard
Jose Luis Barbosa
Patricia Barbour
Francie Barron
Clarice Bednarz
John Bennici
Regina Bentz
Lisa Berg
Roseanne Berg
Mary Betz
Betty Jean Bielich
Pieter Boets & Family
Zane Breier
Beth Brewer
Janet Brown
Katie Browne
Lack & Mary Bruzas Janet Brown
Katie Browne
Jack & Mary Bruzas
Anita Buerger
Jean Calderone
Shelby Campbell
Brianne Campos
Aria Cappellui
Jorge Cartaiena
Doñald Cashmore
Anne Caywood Anne Caywood The Vaughn Clevenger Family Ine vaugnn Clevenger Fa Anne Cline Carl & Dorothy Coleman James Coleman Judy Colson Karen Connell Geoff Coolidge Steven Cresencia Lené Crowe Karen Flaharty Daley Beverly de Gelder Ratel Finaliarly Dailey
Beverly de Gélder
Velia Deal & Family
The Deklever Family
Nick Del Sesto
Paul Del Vecchio
Hugo Delgado, Jr.
Cassandra D'Ercole
Christine DeSantis
Cecilia DeSimone
David deVillenueve
Carole Dillon
Elizabeth Doherty's Aunt Jackie
Art & Dave Dossman
Marge Egan
Jerome Elbacha
The Elfmont & Gisel Families
Arthur Eral
Carolyn Erickson Ey
Victoria Lopez Fenton
The Fiore Family
Fr. James Flanagan
Mary Fleming
Ryan Flum
Ernie Follis
Al Fortaleza
Eugene Franciscus
Kathryn Franklin
The Greg French Family
Brian Frink
Jim Gallagher
Charlene Galvan
The Joe Garcia Family
Kathy Gardner
Joan Gay
Alyssa Gerhard
Jack & Marge Gillen
Merle Glime
Wendy Gonzalez
Tillie Gonzalez
Lou Gordon
George Gritt
Luke Guenst
Susan Hallahan
Colleen Hanna
Pat & Tom Hannon
The Harker Family
Anthony Harrison
Michelle Harrison & Family
Brabara Hatem
Bill & Mary Haynes
Lilian Hills
Lisa (Lynn) Hodges
Samara Hook
Susan Hori
Iolanda Jacobelli
Katherine Jacobs
Sue Johnston
Laura Kater
Dottie Kearney
Connor Kerzie
Peggy Kjernan
Debbie Kinney
Mark Kneisel
Dewey Kolbo

Tony Korwin
Helen Kuhn
Lillian Lachance
The Lamelin Family
Bart Landry
Pauline Lapre's sister Justine
Brandon LeBlanc
Susan Lee
Lake Leffordink Standon Lee
Jake Lefferdink
Jeremiah Lemus
Aleah Leon
Ashley Load
Scot Loftis & Vancelette Families
Cassandra & Lauren Loretto
Jack Lucarelli
Joaquin Maldonado
The Maldonado Family
The Maldonado Trejo Family
Paige Mansell
Gloria Maupin
Colleen McCall
Virginia McConnell
Paige McCoy
The McGinley Family
Ann McMahan
Bob McWilliams
Joyce Meehan
Vale Meedial Ann McMahan
Bob McWilliams
Joyce Meehan
Kalei Mendiola
Lorraine Micallef
Rita Mikridge
Tom Miller
Phyllis Minaya
June Mitchell
Maria Molina
Mary Monson
June Montgomery
Jim Moore
Nancy Moore
Elizabeth Muehlbacher
Conrad Murphy
Eddie Murphy
Margie Myers
Angela Nacional
Nida Navarro
Richard Obsitnik
Kare O'Dell
Laura Paciorek Gloor
Ethan Palm
Cynthia Pearson Kare O'Dell
Laura Paciorek Gloor
Ethan Palm
Cynthia Pearson
Salina Pearson
Salina Pearson
Elisa Petrie
Merri Phelps
Helen Pingtella
Delilah Plästerer
Perry Postulka
The Joe Prokop Family
Barbara Ramm
The Ratajczak Family
Trish Resplandor
Randy Reznicek
Jenni Richard
Evelyn Richards
Jan Riley
Rita Ritchie
Lily Robinson
Maria Rogers
Lily Rolfini
The Russo Family
Rachel Sainc
Cindy Sanelli
Lori Sanna
Linda Schmidt
Joan Shea
Elizabeth Shirzad
Tom Simonson
Nick Soltau
Bob Sorenson
Drew Spangler
Darek, Vanessa, & Elba Spizewski
Don St. Pierre
Sybil Staples
Mike Sterling
Laura Bernard Stover, MD
Pete Sullivan
Pat Swanton
Julie Teare
Tommy & Ginger Thompson
Sarah Tillinghast rat. Swanton
Julie Teare
Tommy, & Ginger Thompson
Sarah Tillinghast
William Tompson
Stephen Toth, Jr.
Olivia Trejo
The Trejo/Beltran Family
The Trejo/Maldonado/Uribe Family
Martin Vertson
Lucy Vienna
Lucy Vienna
Lucy Viramontes
Vanessa Vitiello
Wilson Wanner
Kevin Watson-Graff
Jerry Wechsler
The Williams & Ruitermam
Families Families The Xavier Family Patricia Zavala Jeanne Zeltner

Calendar Highlights

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

Apr 3	Liturgy of the Word for Children at 8:30am and
	10:30am Masses
A 2	
Apr 3	REACH Classes at Church
Apr 3	Restaurant Fundraiser at
	Oggi's
Apr 10	Liturgy of the Word for
	Children at 8:30am and
	10:30am Masses
Apr 10	Knights of Columbus
r	Breakfast
Apr 10	Restaurant Fundraiser at
11p1 10	Oggi's
Apr 16	Spring Ring
Apr 29	STM Gala
May 8	Confirmation
	at 10:30am Mass
May 29	Memorial Day
111aj 25	Choral Concert
Jun 10-12	Annual Campout
Jun 20-24	Vacation Bible School
Jul 24	Pastor's Dinner
Sep 11	Wine Tasting Eventy
Sep 25	New Member Luncheon

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

Deployed Military

Gunnery Sgt. Fernando Andrade, Jr. Lt. Devon Czarzasty Capt. Branden M. Felker, USAF Patrick G. Felker, USN Grant Fischer Cpt. Ryan J. Fullmer, USMC MSGT Steve Gallegos, USMC Sgt. Alex Garcia Adolfo Granados, MD, U.S. Navy PFC Samuel Haro, US Army Cpl Caleb Lemons, USMC Sgt. Brandon Lysen, USMC PFC Cody Madere Jordan Millikan 1st Lt. Jennifer Mozzetta Jeremiah Gabriel Nelson, USAF Thomas Kevin Nelson, US Navy Fireman Griffin Joseph Ochoa, 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 of the year in alphabetical order.

April 4	
Sr. Sanjuana Mora, CVI	
April 5	
Sr. Margaret Mullany, RSM	
April 6	
Sr. Dolores Munoz, HMSS	
April 7	
Sr. Nora Murphy, OP	
April 8	
Sr. Margaret Murray, CSJ	
April 9	
Sr. Ancilla Murray, OCD	
April 10	
Sr. Carolyn Nguyen, OCD	

Social Ministries & Outreach

Get on the Bus 2016

Many of us have already decided what we will be doing for Mother's Day next month. But thousands of children in California don't have the opportunity to celebrate this important day because their mothers are in prison. You can help change this by helping support the Get on the Bus Program.



Faith communities throughout California participate in Get on the Bus. This program brings children to visit their incarcerated mothers. Each year thousands of children throughout California travel by bus to the prison where their mother is confined. Mother and child spend the day hugging, visiting, crying, playing games, eating lunch, and making memories until next Mother's Day. The children spend about 10 hours on the bus in order to share 3-4 hours this one day of the year.

St. Thomas More Parish, along with other San Diego faith communities, is supporting a bus to the Central California Women's Facility (CCWF) in Chowchilla. Watch for more information in the next three bulletins on how you can participate in bringing these children and mothers together.

Have questions or want to volunteer? Contact Sr. Maureen Brown at 760-758-4100 x131 or maureenb@stmoside.org.

St. Bonaventure Indian Mission

The Lenten Season is over but the need for assistance to our needy brothers and sisters goes on. Please continue to set aside your lightly-used clothing, blankets, and shoes for STM's annual clothing drive for St. Bonaventure Indian Mission. We are the only dedicated drive they receive and those served by St. Bonaventure are so very needy. Any questions about what is needed or how you can help should be addressed to Deacon Tom at thomasgoeltz@aol.com or 760-727-8442. In addition to your own generous contributions, perhaps you can get others to help also. God Bless you for all your help.

STM Mental Health Ministry Network

STM is a member of the San Diego Mental Health Ministry Network (MHMN) and has made a commitment to become a faith community that both understands mental illness and can provide compassionate support. While our ministry is not intended to replace professional or clinical services and does not provide professional care, we do exist to serve individuals and families experiencing mental health issues by offering God's hope and love through encouragement, practical support, and prayer. The volunteers of this ministry have a heart to serve those who are experiencing mental health issues and would like to walk with you through your mental health experience and support you in whatever way we can. If you or a loved one is experiencing mental health challenges, or if you would like to find out how to become a member, please contact us at 760-758-4100 x104.

Mental Health America of San Diego County will present "Mental Health First Aid" at St. Patrick Church in Carlsbad on Saturday, April 16. Lunch will be provided and space is limited to 25 participants. Please contact Martha Ackman to register at mmackman5@gmail.com or 760-443-8783.

Marriage & Family Life

Moms & Kids—Are you a mom with infant through school-age children wanting to meet other moms in our Parish? Want to find a great way to meet friends for both you and your children? Join our dynamic and energetic Moms and Kids ministry! We'll be having a park play date on Monday, April 4, 3:00-



5:00pm. There are many other events throughout the month posted on our private Facebook page. Join us! Contact Jen Abelson at jen.abelson@gmail.com.

Separated or Divorced?—The Separated/Divorced Ministry of St. James Parish invites those going through the pain of separation and divorce to find help and healing in a supportive small group setting. Meetings are held each Sunday at 10:15am at St. James Catholic Church at 625 South Nardo Ave., Solana Contact Frank Grant at Beach. 760-533-1520 fwgrant@gmail.com for more information.

Beloved Series—Deacon John and Debbie Fredette will be presenting a 12-part series Wednesday evenings, continuing April 6 at 7:00pm. Learn first hand how to experience the mystery, happiness, and joy of marriage. Contact Debbie Fredette at 760-758-4100 x110 for additional information.

Bishops' Letter on Marriage—Effects of cohabitation: "Social science research, however, finds that cohabitation has no positive effects on a marriage. In some cases, cohabitation can in fact harm a couple's chances for a stable marriage. More importantly, though, cohabitation involves the serious sin of fornication. It does not conform to God's plan for marriage and is always wrong and objectively sinful." To read the document go to http:// www.usccb.org/loveandlife/.

Marriage Moments— "Peace be with you" (John 20:21). All married couples hurt one another at one time or another. Whether minor or large, it still can hurt. Offering forgiveness can bring peace to you both. Is there anything left unforgiven in your marriage? Make peace. By Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net.

Parenting Pointers— "Together were Simon Peter, Thomas, Nathanael, Zebedee's sons, and two others..." (John 21:2). Jesus' friends decide to go on a fishing trip. At first they don't recognize Jesus on shore. How many of your child's friends can you name? Talk together about their personalities and strengths. By Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net.

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

Culture of Life News

Members of the parish Culture of Life Group pray the Rosary at the Vista Planned Parenthood each Thursday morning from 10:00-11:00am. This is a prayerful, non-confrontational event. It is located on Via Center Drive in Vista. For more information, please contact Jane Kelleher at 760-822-7041.

Our Church—Do You Know?

Outdoor speakers are now functioning on the plaza and in the area near the main restrooms to the west of the main doors. Additional restrooms are on the northeast corner behind the choir area.

An AED is located on the west side of the Reconciliation Room.

Parish Events

Women's Guild News

The Women's Guild-sponsored Victorian Garden Tea on Saturday, April 9 at 11:00am. is fast approaching! If you plan to come, please RSVP to co-chair Maureen Tutino at 760-598-8211 or stop by the table on the plaza this weekend to sign up. Cost is \$25 for a lovely four-course high tea. There will be door prizes as well as special prizes for Best Hat and Best Decorated Table! A few seats are still available, and we would love to have you join us. Wear your tea-best!

The Women's Guild monthly luncheon meeting is on Monday, April 11, in the Parish Center Lower Level. Our program for the day is our very own Sally Fay, who plays the organ so beautifully for our Parish. Her program will be educational as well as entertaining. A lovely luncheon and door prizes will follow. Please reserve with Hospitality Chair, Anna Robinson, at 760-231-1323.

The weekend of April 16-17 features our semi-annual Bake Sale on the plaza after each of the Masses. Your home-baked donations and purchases are greatly appreciated. Watch for the flyer in next week's bulletin.

Nominations are being accepted for the 2016-17 Women's Guild Board of Directors. Please contact Barbara Brown Barreras, Vice President of Membership and Nomination Committee Chair, at 760-639-0012, if you or someone you know would be interested in serving on our Board next year.

May the joy of Easter be within you throughout the year!

-Kathy Gerhard, president

Knights Knews

Thank You to all who supported our Lenten Fish Dinners.

Mark your calendars for next Sunday, April 10, for our wonderful Pancake Breakfast in the Parish Center Lower Level, 9:00-10:30am. Hope to see you there!

Catholic Widows and Widowers of North County

On Sunday, April 24, CWWNC will gather here at STM for communal Mass at 10:30am, followed by lunch at Nucci's. This is a great opportunity for prospective members to get acquainted with our group. On the second Sunday of each month, we meet for a general meeting and potluck at various areas in North County (April 10 at St. Margaret Church on Oceanside Blvd.). Check the bulletin board on the lower level of the Parish Center or visit www.cwwnc.com for our calendar of events including bowling, bocce ball, golf, dining out, hiking, and more! RSVP's are required. For more information, call Carol Kope at 760-726-0533.

Men's Fellowship Update

Are you hungry for a good message, good fellowship, and a good breakfast? Join us for our Saturday morning men's gathering and breakfast called *iHunger*. To stay informed of what's going on with *iHunger* via SMS text messages, **Text** @iHunger to 23559.

Also, if you find yourself thirsty for occasional fellowship over a beer at a local micro-brewery, or taking a day hike, or going to a ball game together with some other great men from the Parish, **Text @iThirst to 23559.**



4:30-9:00pm STM Social Event of the Year!

Happy Hour at 4:30pm kicks off our fundraising event!
You'll have time to check out our Raffle, Silent and Live
Auction items, Wheel of Fortune, Movies, Plays,
Restaurant packages, golf surprises, and more.
Join us for a FUN evening!



Stay tuned for fabulous Wheel of Fortune prizes!!!

Dinner is served at 6:00pm \$50/person

Vegetarian option available upon request

Plus reserve your spot for the

Pastor's Dinner

Sunday, July 24 ★ 5:00-8:00pm at the beautiful Crossings Restaurant in Carlsbad \$150/per person (\$75 tax deductible)

For information, please contact Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120 or chriss@stmoside.org

Take St. Thomas More Home!

St. Thomas More Tapestries, 26" x 30", are available for \$200 each. This "one of a kind" tapestry is created of the same materials as the actual tapestry that is in our Church! See the sample hanging in the Parish Office. There are nine available for purchase now. We are offering these, as well as the STM Posters, at our cost. Order forms and posters are available after all Masses at the Parish Information Table on the plaza.

Questions? Contact Chris Smith at 760-758-4100 x120 or *chriss@stmoside.org*.

Special "Holy Year of Mercy" Rosaries

Fr. Mike has obtained special "Holy Year of Mercy" rosaries from the Vatican and blessed by Pope Francis. The rosaries are available on the plaza after Masses and also in the Parish Office during the week. Please stop by and take a look. There are three different styles available at \$20, \$25, and \$30.

Liturgy & Music Worship God

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

TRACING OUR ROOTS

by Patricia
Datchuck Sánchez
and Rafael
Sánchez Alonso,
from Celebration
April 2016, with
permission.

In the weeks after Easter, a time we call the Easter season, we are made aware yet again that Easter is more than a season; it is a way of life. This life to which Jesus calls us will require nothing less than our absolute, singlehearted commitment, a resolve that we renew daily and live deliberately. This commitment is not for the fickle or faint of heart. We rely, in great part, on the living stones who first formed our foundation as church and on all the generations who have gone before us, living and dying, suffering and witnessing so that the faith may be preserved, protected, and passed on from mother to daughter and father to son. Therefore, it seems most appropriate that we occasionally travel back to our roots to appreciate our ancestors and learn from their insights and accomplishments, as well as their struggles and failures.

Many of us have traced our physical roots. Websites like ancestry.com help us to examine the branches and leaves of our family tree. Some searches affirm what we already know: others uncover unexpected surprises. By learning about who we came from, we can gain a better sense of who we are. When we undertake the challenge of tracing our spiritual roots, we are blessed with mentors whose efforts can reacquaint us with those who have gone before us in faith. This month, Luke (Acts) will provide a literary window through which we can observe the early church.

In his Acts of the Apostles, Luke illustrates how the second and third generations of believers attempted to live life in Jesus after his ascension. They had to learn how to watch and wait for Jesus' return. As the wait grew longer and longer, they realized that they were to carry on the mission of Jesus, preaching the

scripture themes for April

good news of forgiveness and salvation to all who would listen. They also realized that it was their responsibility to carry that good news to the ends of the earth, discriminating against no welcoming all, sharing the gifts of God's love and mercy with whomever God placed on their way. They relied on one another for strength and support, and when conflicts came, they faced them together, all the while under the auspices of the Holy Spirit. Each Easter season, we trace our spiritual roots to these good people to learn anew whom we are called to be.

In the second reading for this month, John the Seer (Revelation) will allow us a taste of what is to come in order to strengthen us for what we shall encounter along the way. The Seer allows readers to share in his visions of eternity as a source of hope and encouragement in their struggles for the sake of their faith. was writing for contemporaries who, at the end of the first Christian century, were suffering torture, persecution, and death at the hands of the Roman Emperor Domitian (who reigned from 81 to 96). The Seer's word is like resistance literature during a time of war. It refers to the exile in Babylon, but he was actually offering commentary on his own day and its troubles. Far from being a calendar of the future, the Seer's writings were intended to encourage his contemporaries to be hopeful because God and goodness can never be overcome by evil. His message continues to speak to all who suffer unjustly for doing what is right and good.

During April, John the evangelist (Gospel) will mentor us in what is called the high Christology of the fourth Gospel, presenting



John 20:21

appearances of the risen Jesus (April 3, 10) as well as teachings of Jesus during his ministry (April 17, 24). Because of the unique character of the Johannine literature, and the unique quality of the fourth Gospel, we have a different view of Jesus than that of the Synoptics.

There is no doubt that Jesus is God, according to the Johannine author. Indeed, the several "Ego eimi" or "I am" statements make it perfectly clear to every believing reader that Jesus is truly divine and he manifests his divinity as the Way, the Truth, and the Life, as Bread from Heaven, as the Good Shepherd (April 17), as giver of Peace and the Holy Spirit (April 3), as One who has given us a new commandment: "As I have loved you, so you also should love one another" (April 24).

If we take nothing else with us from April's sacred texts, let it be thisthe command to love as Jesus loves. This precludes anything that goes violence; against love: war; discrimination with regard to race, ethnicity, religion, political differences, age, gender, sexual orientation. How radically might the world be transformed if we were to take Jesus at his word: Love one another as I love you!

Upcoming Music

X

APRIL 10 3rd Sunday of Easter

X

5:00pm

Cappella Choir

8:30am
Tower Bells

.

10:30am

Sanctuary Choir

Faith Formation

Teach 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

<u>Today is a REACH Sunday!</u>

Registration for REACH Classes For 2016/2017 Begins Today!



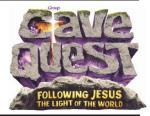
Expecting ??

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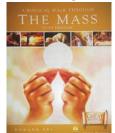
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Wednesday 6:30-8:00pm

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EDGE is back 4/10/16

Stewardship & Development Serve God's People

Collection for Week of March 26/27, 2016 Number of Registered Households 1,203 Offertory \$24,055.58 Offertory (Loose Collection) \$3,641.00 Total \$27,696.58

Mortgage/Building Completion Fund Income Santambar 15 2014 to Fahruary 20 2016

September 15, 2014 to repruary 29, 2010	
Mortgage Offering Collected	\$831,868.79
Less Administrative Costs	\$37,494.00
Payment toward Parish Reserves (10%)	\$82,480.58
Payment toward Mortgage	\$742,325.21 \$777,369.57 (\$35,044.36)
Mortgage Payment Due	
Mortgage Payment Overage/(Shortfall)	
Memorial Items	\$1,416,679.90
Please continue to support the	

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Do at least two people know the location of your Living Trust and/or Will and Health Directive?

TOWERS OF FAITH

Future Support & Estate Planning Options

Towers of Faith is a movement that has arisen due to the visionary leadership and generosity of several of our Parishioners. We stress that this is not about the gift amount, but rather the love and thought behind the gift.

These individuals (several anonymous) have included STM in their estate planning. This helps to ensure their ongoing support and a legacy for our Parish. Towers of Faith is a valuable portion of our future support.



Examples of the various future planning vehicles are: **Designated Beneficiary Accounts,** Last Will and Testament, Living Trust, Life Insurance, Stocks and Bonds, Real Estate, and Endowments.

Parishioners who have already included STM in their estate plans are Towers of Faith participants. If you are interested, please contact us. Your participation is most welcome and appreciated!

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

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

A Stewardship Prayer for April Dear Lord, risen Lord, merciful Lord!



The Easter season is filled with your presence, and we come to you in gratitude for the deep and abiding joy you offer us through the promise of your resurrection.

Help us hear your call as did Mary Magdalene.

Teach us as you did the disciples at Emmaus.

Dispel our doubts as you did for Thomas.

And reveal yourself to us as you did to your friends from the shore of Lake Tiberius.

Make us good stewards of this Easter season.

Open our hearts and minds in a special way to the great mystery of your active presence in our lives, and give us the courage to help others discover your presence in their lives.

For you are the light of the world.

To you, Christ Jesus, be praise and glory!

Amen.

— excerpted, Stewardship LLC, April 2016 (with permission)

What we are is God's gift to us. What we make of ourselves, is our gift to God.

Iosus Divine Redeemer and

Memorial Item Donations Available

Pipe Organ	\$850,000
Christ on the Road to Emmaus Bronze Sculpture for Daily Mass Chapel	\$27,000
Parish Offices	
Metal Framing Exterior Walls	\$60,000
HVAC Components	\$55,000
Roofing	\$45,000
Exterior Windows and Doors	\$45,000
Exterior Brick	\$30,000
Plumbing	\$30,000
Plumbing Finish and Fixtures	\$10,000

Memorial Item Donations Partial

Master of the Universe Mosaic Panels for Memorial Garden (54) 14 available	\$5,000/each
Priests' Concelebration Vestments (4) 4 available	\$400/each
Pew Seating for the Church (1,000) 708 available	\$300/each
Daily Mass Chapel and Choir Chairs (200) 93 available	\$300/each
Altar Server Albs (15) 9 available	\$125/each

03/29/16

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.

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*

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 March 1 we have netted \$61,557 from this program. Thank you donors!



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

The Larger Church News

Third Annual Divine Mercy Conference and Workshop—Saturday, April 16, 9:30am-3:30pm, St. Martha Catholic Church, 37200 Whitewood Rd., Murrieta. Featured speakers are Fr. Donald Calloway, Tim Staples, and Donna Cori Gibson. For more information, call Barbara at 951-600-9163.

San Luis Rey Chorale Presents Requiem: Music to Soothe the Soul and Honor the Memory of Loved Ones—Friday, April 29, 7:00pm and Saturday, April 30, 3:00pm, Mission San Luis Rey, 4050 Mission Ave., Oceanside. For more information, visit http://tinyurl.com/zfxtkwr.

St. Francis Women's Retreat—April 29-May 1, Vina de Lestonnac in Temecula. Mark your calendar now and please join us for the 27th Annual St. Francis Women's Retreat "You Are God's Beloved."



Around the Diocese—Visit *www.sdcatholic.org* to learn more about activities available through the Diocese and other Parishes.

Online Post-Abortion Support—Visit abortionchangesyou.com.

Bereavement Support Group—Meets every Tuesday, 9:30-11:00am, at St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Room 5 of the Parish Center, 6628 Santa Isabel St., Carlsbad. All those negotiating the loss of a loved one are invited to participate. For more information, contact Liz Littel at 760-917-4404.

Shopportunity—Catholic Charities Thrift—Item donations appreciated. For more information, contact Yolanda Ungo, Program Manager, 760-631-2819.

Young Adult Opportunities around the Diocese

Holy Heroes! A Day Retreat for All Young Adults (18-39), Saturday, March 12, 8:30am-6:00pm

For more information, visit www.yamsd.org. To receive text updates, text YAM to 84576.

Visit www.sandiegocac.org for activities around the Diocese for adults of **all** ages.

Catholic Radio—AM 1000/Sirius 130—San Diego

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

Parish Contacts

Updated 02/10/2016

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 MinistryDiane Pal 760-815-2519
Rengious Education/Faith Formation/EvangenzationRory Griffin 760-414-3939	Women's GuildKathy Gerhard 760-732-5951
Religious Education for Adolescents & Children (RE.A.CH)	Social Ministries Stacey & Morgan Espe 760-224-2699
Debbie Fredette 760-758-4100 x110	Blood Drive Stacey & Morgan Espe 760-224-2699
Liturgy of the Word for Children Heidi Madden 760-529-2400	Brother Benno's CollectionDcn. Tom Goeltz 760-727-8442
Sacramental PreparationDebbie Fredette 760-758-4100 x110	Brother Benno's Kitchen ServerGeorge Jones 760-940-9288
RCIA	Christmas Angel Ministry Kevin & Lisa Seufert 760-732-5965
Moms & KidsJen Abelson 410-570-6962	CPR/AED Classes
Lia Haubert 949-322-6458	Culture of Life
Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs Regina Aulisio 760-295-5530	Jail Ministry
Youth Ministry Matt Franklin 760-758-4100 x161	Mental Health Ministry
High School	Referrals: Deacon John Fredette 760-758-4100 x104
Young Adults	Prayer Request LinePat Wong 760-806-1310
Religious Education for Adults Debbie Fredette 760-758-4100 x110	Norma Flanagan 760-630-0180
Bible Study	Project Linus
Men's Fellowship	Social Justice Committee Henri Black 760-758-8137
Women's MinistryLia Keane 760-586-8049	Interfaith Center for Worker Justice
Vocations	Joyce Meehan 760-304-0373
LiturgyKathy Arciero 760-231-1022	San Diego Organizing Project (SDOP)
Art & Environment Kathy Arciero 760-231-1022	Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131
Bereavement MinistrySr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131	Solutions for Change
Eucharistic Adoration	St. Bonaventure MissionDcn. Tom Goeltz 760-727-8442
Interior Design TeamPat & Phil Goscienski 760-732-1414	Office Support
Liturgical MinistriesDouglas Lynn 760-758-4100 x140	General Support
Music Ministry	Chair Set-UpLorraine Doering 760-758-4100 x102
Sacristans—Altar Guild	Kitchen ManagerRebecca Eyer 760-758-4100 x100
Sacristans—Altar LinensAnna Meyers 760-727-4998 Marriage & Family Life Jen Frost 858-692-7438	Development Council Committees
Bringing the Celebration HomeJen Frost 858-692-7438	Annual Catholic AppealFlora Fallone 760-758-4100 x100
Diocesan Liaison	New ConstructionBrian Leahey 760-224-1674
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Marriage Preparation Rev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100	Planned Giving Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120
Widows & Widowers of North CountyCarol Kope 760-726-0533	Publicity/Public RelationsJane Gladden 760-659-6168
Parish Organizations & Events Lisa & Pat Attardo 760-940-1505	Scrip Sales
Annual Gala	Andrea Sweeney 760-216-6389 Stewardship
Historian/Archives Brandon Oswald 760-845-5450	Vehicle Donations
Knights of ColumbusJohn Murphy 760-497-6117	Welcome Ministry
Social Activities	
Spirited SemoisJiii & Warnyii Day 700-309-4343	
	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
	760-758-4100 x132
	760-758-4100 x100 thomasg@stmoside.org
	760-758-4100 x131 maureenb@stmoside.org
	760-758-4100 x104
	760-758-4100 x110
	760-758-4100 x101 staceyg@stmoside.org
	760-758-4100 x140
	760-758-4100 x100
	760-758-4100 x100
	760-758-4100 x120
	760-758-4100 x151
Henny Jocelyn, Receptionist/Secretary	760-758-4100 x100 hennyj@stmoside.org
Lorraine Doering, Parish Office Technician	760-758-4100 x102 lorrained@stmoside.org
Rebecca Eyer, Sacristan	760-758-4100 x100rebeccae@stmoside.org
Brian Leahey, Director of Construction	760-758-4100 x152 brianl@stmoside.org
	

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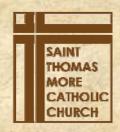
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Second Sunday of Easter | Sunday of Divine Mercy April 3, 2016

Pastor's Column

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



The Ragman

A number of people have asked for my Easter homily. Here it is!

Early one Friday morning, even before dawn, I noticed a young handsome and strong, walking through the alleys of our city. As he walked, he pulled a cart filled with bright new clothes; in a clear tenor voice, he called out: RAGS, RAGS, NEW RAGS FOR OLD RAGS! RAGS, RAGS, NEW RAGS FOR OLD RAGS! I'll take your tired rags. RAGS, RAGS, NEW RAGS FOR OLD RAGS! RAGS, RAGS, **NEW RAGS FOR OLD RAGS!**



Now, this is certainly a wonder I thought to myself for the man stood six feet four inches tall, and his arms were like tree limbs, hard and muscular, and his eyes flashed intelligence. Surely he could have found a better job than being a ragman in the inner city. I followed him, driven by curiosity and I was not disappointed.

Soon the Ragman came upon a woman sitting on her back porch sobbing into a handkerchief, sighing and shedding a thousand tears. Her shoulders shook; her heart was breaking. RAGS, RAGS, NEW RAGS FOR OLD RAGS! RAGS, RAGS, NEW RAGS FOR OLD RAGS!

"Give me your rag," said the Ragman with a gentle voice, "and I will give you another." He slipped the handkerchief from her eyes and laid across her palm a linen cloth so clean and new that it shone. She blinked a silent thanks, and, as he began to pull his cart again, the Ragman did a strange thing. He put her stained handkerchief to his own face and began to weep and sob as grievously as the woman had done. Yet she was left without a tear.

Drawn in like a child who cannot turn away from mystery, I continued to follow the sobbing Ragman. RAGS, RAGS, NEW RAGS FOR OLD RAGS! RAGS, RAGS, NEW RAGS FOR OLD RAGS!

Soon he came upon a girl whose head was wrapped in a bloody bandage. A single line of blood ran down her cheek. With gentle compassion, the Ragman offered the girl a beautiful yellow hat from his cart. "Give me your rags," he said. "And I will give you mine." The child was still while the Ragman loosened her bandage and tied it

around his own head. When he put the hat on hers, I gasped aloud at what I saw, for with the bandage went the wound and on his forehead a line of blood began to form – it was his own!

RAGS, RAGS, NEW RAGS FOR OLD RAGS! RAGS, RAGS, NEW RAGS FOR OLD RAGS! ... cried the sobbing, bleeding, strong, intelligent Ragman as he picked up his pace.

"Are you going to work?" He asked a man leaning against a telephone pole. The man shook his head; the Ragman pressed him, "Do you have a job?"

"Are you crazy?" sneered the man, and with that he opened his jacket to reveal that he had no arm. "So," said the Ragman, "give me your jacket and I will give you mine." The one-armed man took off his jacket. So did the Ragman, and I trembled at what I saw, for

> the Ragman's arm stayed in the sleeve and when the other put it on, he had two good arms, but the Ragman only one. "Go to work," he said, with quiet authority in his voice.

> "RAGS, RAGS, NEW RAGS FOR OLD RAGS! RAGS, RAGS, NEW RAGS FOR OLD RAGS! After that,

> > (continued on page 3)



the Ragman found a drunk, lying unconscious beneath an army blanket; he was old, wizened and sick. The Ragman took the blanket and wrapped it around himself, but for the drunk he left new clothes.

At this point, I had to run to keep up with the Ragman. Though weeping uncontrollably and bleeding, pulling his cart with one arm and stumbling for drunkenness, he went on with terrible speed. It pained me to see the change in this man, yet I kept following.

Finally, he came to a landfill. He climbed up a hill of garbage and with tormented labor, he cleared a little space. Then he sighed and lay down. He pillowed his head on the jacket and the handkerchief. He covered his bones with the army blanket...and then, he died.

How I cried to witness that death. I slumped in a junked car and wailed as one who has no hope because I had come to love the Ragman. I wore myself out with sadness and fell asleep. I slept through Friday night and Saturday too. But then on Sunday, I was jolted awake by a violent light.

Light – pure, hard, demanding light slammed against my sleeping face and I blinked and looked and then I saw him. There was the Ragman folding the blanket most carefully, a scar on his forehead but alive!

And besides that, he glowed with health and wholeness. There was no sign of sorrow or of age and the rags he had gathered shined with cleanliness.

I lowered my head, and trembled for all I had seen. I got myself out of the junk car and walked to the



Ragman. I told him my name with shame, for I was a sorry figure next to him. Then I stripped myself of everything and said to him with yearning in my tone, "Clothe me. Make me new again!" He dressed me. My Lord, dressed me! He put new rags on



me and I am a wonder beside him. The Ragman! The Ragman! The Christ!

RAGS, RAGS, NEW RAGS FOR OLD RAGS! RAGS, RAGS, NEW RAGS FOR OLD RAGS!

We the Faith Community of St. Thomas More gather together on this Feast of the Resurrection in the presence of the Ragman, the Christ.

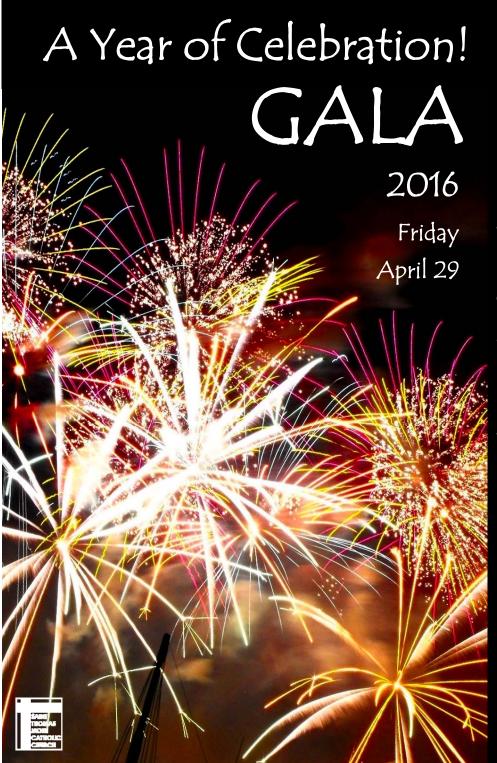
Through the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist, we have committed ourselves to standing with the Ragman. We have met him...We have heard his song...We have experienced what he does for others and what he does for us.

This morning, in a few minutes, after this homily, we will have the opportunity to renew our Baptismal Promises and to be sprinkled with the waters of the Baptismal Font. We, once again, strip ourselves of everything. We give the Ragman our old, dirty, stained, torn rags and allow him to dress us with the rags of new life, new hope, and new beginnings!

RAGS, RAGS, NEW RAGS FOR OLD RAGS! RAGS, RAGS, NEW RAGS FOR OLD RAGS!

—from a story by Walter Wangerin, Jr.





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