

Church of St. Thomas More

A Roman Catholic Parish in the Diocese of San Diego

Spirituality † Tradition † Community



Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor

Deacon Thomas A. Goeltz

1450 South Melrose Drive, Oceanside, CA 92056
760-758-4100 • 760-758-4165 fax

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

parishoffice@stmoside.org • www.stmoside.org



ThomasMoreRCC



Mass Schedule

Saturday at 5:00pm

Sunday at 8:30am and 10:30am

Tuesday-Friday at 8:15am

Eucharistic Adoration

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

Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturday, 4:00-4:30pm

November 27, 2011 • First Sunday of Advent



Christmas Angel Ministry

Parishioners select ornaments from the tree and donate gifts that volunteers package and deliver to local charities.

See page 4 for further details.

Pastor's Column

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.

(Continued on page 2)

Join us for...

Advent Communal Reconciliation Service on Sunday, November 27, at 4:00pm

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Thursday, December 8—Masses at 8:15am and 7:00pm



Our Mission is to: worship God,

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

*For further information, contact Douglas Lynn,
Director of Liturgy and Music,
at 760-758-4100 x140 or douglasl@stmoside.org*

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

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

teach and live the Gospel of Jesus Christ,

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

*For further information, contact Kathleen Bell,
Director of Faith Formation,
at 760-758-4100 x110 or kathleenb@stmoside.org.*

and serve God's people in word and deed.

There are many groups who serve our Parishioners and provide outreach to the local community (see page 10).

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

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

Looking for Information on the Catholic Faith?

Are you interested in learning more about Catholicism, becoming a Catholic, or returning to the Catholic Church after being away?

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

STM Vehicle Donation Program

Do you have a vehicle you want to donate?
The St. Thomas More program is easy!

Call us, and we'll have it picked up.
You get the tax deduction!

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

Since 2006 we have netted over \$22,300
from this program. Thank you donors!



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

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 who takes away the sins of the world! Happy are we! We are called to His supper!"—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 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 weekend, on Sunday, November 27, 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.

Many 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?

Advent Reconciliation Services at Local Parishes

See page 4 for a list of other services in the area, just in case you miss ours!

Readings for the Week Ahead
 Sunday Year A; Weekday Year I
 Readings online at www.usccb.org.

Sunday, November 27 (2)
 Isaiah 63:16b-17,19b; 64:2b-7
 Psalm 80:2-3,15-16,18-19
 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
 Mark 13:33-37

Monday, November 28 (175)
 Isaiah 2:1-5
 Psalm 122:1-9
 Matthew 8:5-11

Tuesday, November 29 (176)
 Isaiah 11:1-10
 Psalm 72:1-2,7-8,12-13,17
 Luke 10:21-24

Wednesday, November 30 (684)
Andrew, apostle
 Romans 10:9-18
 Psalm 19:205
 Matthew 4:18-22

Thursday, December 1 (178)
 Isaiah 26:1-6
 Psalm 118:1,8-9,19-21,25-27a
 Matthew 7:21,24-27

Friday, December 2 (179)
 Isaiah 29:17-24
 Psalm 27:1,4,13-14
 Matthew 9:27-31

Saturday, December 3 (180)
Francis, Xavier, priest
 Isaiah 30:19-21,23-26
 Psalm 147:1-6
 Matthew 9:35-10:1,5a,6-8

Sunday, December 4 (5)
Second Sunday of Advent
 Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11
 Psalm 85:9-14
 2 Peter 3:8-14
 Mark 1:1-8

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

Mary Alexander
 Laura Allenfort
 Emily Allison
 Lucia Ambriz
 Phyllis Bader
 Mary Balli
 Alexandra Banwell
 Jose Luis Barbosa
 Clarice Bednarz
 John Bennici
 Regina Bentz
 Roseanne Berg
 George "Whitey" Betus
 Mary Betz
 Betty Jean Bielich
 Lynda Brady
 Roy Bristol
 The Brogan Family
 Monica Broussard
 George Brown
 Janet Brown
 Mary Bruzas
 The Burke & Trotta Families
 The Butler Family
 Maria Cabage
 The Cadieux Family
 Shelby Campbell
 Brianne Campos
 Claudia Caplinger
 Paul Cassidy
 Lolly Cervantes
 Pat Christopherson
 Dick Clarke
 Dolly Cole
 Carl Coleman
 James Coleman
 Karen Flaharty Daley
 Beverly de Gelder
 Stephanie de Villeneuve
 Cecilia DeSimone
 Judith DiMatteo
 John Drazkowski, Jr.
 Sharon Evans
 Chuck Fay
 The Fiore Family
 Dan Fletcher
 Ryan Flum
 Matthew Foster
 Kathryn Franklin
 Joe Freire
 Brian Frink
 Carmen Garcia
 The Dave Gonzales Family
 Rick Gonzalez
 Eileen Gough
 Rosemary Haeffelin
 Susan Hallahan
 The Harker Family
 Elizabeth Harrison
 Lilian Hills
 Susan Hori
 Iolanda Iacobelli
 Eileen Jones
 Paul Kennedy
 Peggy Kiernan
 Debbie Kinney
 Dewey Kolbo
 Sr. Anne Kremenik
 Helen Kuhn
 Carrie Labadie
 Lillian Lachance
 The Lamelin Family
 Jo & Bernie Lanzrath
 The Laub Family
 Christopher Lawrence
 Roland Lawrence
 Brandon LeBlanc
 Ashley Load
 Cassandra Loretto
 Lauren Loretto
 Richard Lynn
 The Lyon & Stewart Families
 James MacArthur
 Joaquin Maldonado
 Nancy Marley
 Bob McWilliams
 Kalei Mendiola
 Phyllis Minaya
 June Mitchell
 Nancy Moore
 Redgie Mucambo
 Conrad Murphy
 Margie Myers
 Cosmo Nocida
 Helen O'Connell
 Heidi Olson
 Juanita Matamala Pacheco
 Bernadette Padovan
 Art Palle
 Lupe Casas Pelletier
 Helen Pingtella
 Douglas Price-Williams
 Hal & Lorraine Radcliffe
 Mrs. Radilinski
 The Rasmon Family
 Sr. Esther Reyes
 Clinton Ritchie
 Rita Ritchie
 Joanne Robinson
 Maria Rogers
 Dorothy Rouse
 The Russo Family
 Kimberly Schlunt
 Linda Schmidt
 The Douglas E. Schulte Family
 Concetta Sdao
 Pete Serle & Family
 Bob, Joan, & Julie Shea
 Elizabeth Shirzad
 Richard Sikora
 Jeanne Sisson
 Mike Snyder
 Nick Soltau
 Fred & Gilda Spiegl
 Darek, Vanessa, & Elba Spizewski
 Dorothy Staehr
 Ted Stanislawski
 The Stephens Family
 Pete Sullivan
 Maria Surmenidis
 David Sweet
 Jim Thompson, Jr.
 Sarah Tillinghast
 Stephen Toth, Jr.
 John Treat
 Mary Tysko & Family
 Laurie Updyke
 Arnie Velasco
 Silvana Vettese
 Bob Vita
 Vanessa Vitiello-Koble
 Kevin Watson-Graff
 John Whitton
 Silvia Wrozs
 Patricia Zavala
 Bill & Katrina Zynda

Calendar Highlights

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

The Week Ahead

Nov 27 Liturgy of the Word for
 Children at 8:30am and
 10:30am Masses
 Nov 27 Advent Communal Penance
 Service

The Month Ahead

Dec 4 Liturgy of the Word for
 Children at 8:30am Mass
 Dec 4 RE.A.CH Classes at Church
 including high school
 Dec 8 Immaculate Conception of
 the Blessed Virgin Mary
 Masses at 8:15am and
 7:00pm
 Dec 8 Spirited Seniors
 Bernardo Winery Trip
 Dec 10 Christmas Angel
 Dec 11 Liturgy of the Word for
 Children at 8:30am Mass
 Dec 11 RE.A.CH classes at church,
 including high school
 Stocking Stuffing Party
 Dec 12 Women's Guild Luncheon
 Dec 24 Vigil of Christmas
 Masses at 4:00pm,
 6:00pm, and 10:00pm
 (caroling at 9:30pm)
 Dec 25 Christmas Day
 Masses at 8:30am and
 10:30am

2012

Jan 9 Women's Guild Luncheon
 Jan 11 Diocesan Council of
 Catholic Women,
 Oceanside Deanery,
 at STM
 Jan 14-31 Stewardship Awareness and
 Renewal
 Jan 15 RE.A.CH classes at church
 Jan 22 Towers of Faith Reception

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.

| |
|----------------------------------|
| November 28 |
| Sr. Maire Naughton, RSM |
| November 29 |
| Sr. Maria Carmelita Navarro, DCJ |
| November 30 |
| Sr. Rosemary Nicholson, RJM |
| December 1 |
| Sr. Ma. Esther Nunez, SJS |
| December 2 |
| Sr. Frances Obrovac, FSP |
| December 3 |
| Sr. Anne O'Connor, CSN |
| December 4 |
| Sr. LaVern Olberding, OSF |

| Mass Intentions |
|--|
| Saturday, November 26, 5:00pm Tom & Pat Hannon |
| Sunday, November 27, 8:30am J. C. Gonzalez ☩ |
| Sunday, November 27, 10:30am Vance & Freda Schweitzer ☩ |
| Tuesday, November 29, 8:15am Lorraine Kauffman ☩ |
| Wednesday, November 30, 8:15am Alice Sullivan ☩ |
| Thursday, December 1, 9:00am Tony Caserta ☩ |
| Friday, December 2, 8:15am Joseph Doering ☩ |
| Saturday, December 3, 5:00pm Bill Carrothers ☩ |
| Sunday, December 4, 8:30am Nicholas Angelucci, Sr. ☩ |
| Sunday, December 4, 10:30am Donn Wilmott ☩ |

Deployed Military

*As a faith community let us pray
 for all who serve our country in
 these troubled times. We pray
 especially for those connected
 to our Parish who have been
 deployed:*

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

Announcing the Baptism of

Adam Frost
on November 26, 2011



Our Christian community welcomes you with great joy!

In Memoriam



Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

John Laub, who died on November 21. His Funeral arrangements are pending. Please keep his wife, Ruth, and the family in your prayers.

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

Advent Reconciliation Services at Local Parishes

| Date | Time | Parish |
|---------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| Sun, Nov. 27 | 4:00pm | St. Thomas More, Oceanside |
| Mon, Nov. 28 | 7:00pm | St. Margaret, Oceanside |
| Thu, Dec. 1 | 1:00pm | St. Francis, Vista |
| Thu, Dec. 1 | 7:00pm | St. Francis, Vista |
| Mon, Dec. 5 | 7:00pm | Nativity, Rancho Santa Fe |
| Tue, Dec. 6 | 6:30pm | St. James, Solana Beach |
| Wed, Dec. 7 | 7:00pm | St. Patrick, Carlsbad |
| Fri, Dec. 9 | 6:30pm | Mary Star of the Sea, Oceanside |
| Tue, Dec. 13 | 7:00pm | St. John, Encinitas |
| Thu, Dec. 15 | 7:00pm | Mission San Luis Rey, Oceanside |
| Fri, Dec. 16 | 7:00pm | St. Elizabeth Seton, Carlsbad |
| Sat, Dec. 17 | 10:00am | Mission San Luis Rey, Oceanside |
| Mon, Dec. 19 | 6:30pm | St. Mark, San Marcos |
| Tue, Dec. 20 | 6:00pm | St. Peter, Fallbrook |

STM \$scrip News

TRY US NOW! FREE Fundraising.

Earn money for the Building Fund AND do your Christmas shopping at the same time!

A percentage of each gift card is returned to the Parish for the Building Fund. Check the Scrip list (at the Scrip table after Masses or on the website) to find out how much each card earns.

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

Remember, Scrip is available for purchase FOUR ways!

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

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

Social Ministries/Outreach

Christmas Angels

The 2011 Christmas Angel program began with a great response this past weekend. Please continue to take an ornament or two and adopt a family from Camp Pendleton. All **STOCKING ORNAMENT** gifts are **due back next week**, by **Sunday December 4**, so volunteers can sort and buy any needed items in time for the stuffing of stockings and gift bags on **Saturday, December 10, at 9:00am.**

Please help make this year a successful one. Choose your ornaments early and be ready for this week's sales! Also consider being a volunteer angel. Thank you in advance, STM Parishioners, for your time and generosity.

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

More's Workers

More's Workers has been presented with another opportunity to give back to the community through our time and manual labor. We have been asked to renovate an Interfaith Community Service apartment in Escondido. This is a low income property; the people living there now will move out during the renovation and then move back in. We expect the work to begin the first weekend of December and continue for two weeks. So please pencil in some time to help out during the first two weeks of December. We'll schedule some of the work on Saturdays to accommodate those who are working on weekdays. If you have handyman skills, can paint, or want to assist with the cleanup, please volunteer to help.

If you are interested in joining More's Workers on this project, contact Jerry Gayvert at 760-295-0645 or gayvert@cox.net.

Culture of Life News

Thanks to all who participated in and/or sponsored Life Walk 2011. St. Thomas More was in the top ten (#9) of amounts pledged by groups with \$3,050 in pledges! Proceeds assist Life Perspectives in providing educational programs related to respecting life from womb to tomb.

Helping Seminarians

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

The Mission of the St. Thomas More Social Justice Committee is to:

- † provide awareness and education of Catholic social justice teaching;
- † participate in creating a society with more just laws and social structures;
- † work with other faith groups on justice issues within social, economic, and political structures.

Parish Events

Knights of Columbus News

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

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

Women's Guild News

We are looking to December now for a special Christmas Luncheon next month. Watch for details in coming weeks. We are also in the middle of plans for our Fashion Show in February, so save these dates: December 12 and February 18.

See you all next time and remember ASAP (always say a prayer).

—Vera Bayliss, President

Spirited Seniors to Tour Bernardo Winery December 8

As a reminder...the Spirited Seniors Trip still has space available until December 1. The cost is \$21.50 per person, and we will carpool from the Parish Center parking lot. Additional flyers with registration forms are still available in the Parish Office. Just complete and attach your check (made out to St. Thomas More Spirited Seniors). For more information, please call Patricia St. Pierre at 760-732-3919.

Catholic Widows and Widowers of North County

Usually meets the second Sunday of each month for a general meeting and potluck. Generally on the fourth Sunday of each month, we meet for Mass at various Parishes in North County followed by a meal at a nearby restaurant. Contact Gerri Wilmott at 760-758-9949 or Carol Kope at 760-726-0533 for more information and specific dates.

Young Adult Group News

ACTTS (Adult Catholics in their Twenties and Thirties who Socialize) is partnering with the North County Young Adults group, which includes young adults from several North County Parishes. For more information or to get on the email list, contact actts@stmoside.org or visit www.yamsd.org.

Eucharistic Adoration



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

Exposition of the Eucharist on First Fridays.
Next date: Friday, December 2.

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

Rosary

A communal Rosary is prayed after every morning Mass (Tuesday-Friday) in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Please join us!



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

Pledge Statistics as of November 27

| Phase II | | # of Families Responding |
|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Total Responses | \$1,577,857 | 765 |
| Still Needed | \$422,143 | 263 |
| Total Goal | \$2,000,000 | 1,028 |
| Total Collected | \$1,502,513 | |



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

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

† **ADDITIONAL GIFTS WELCOME!!!**

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

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

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

Parish Financial Report

The annual financial report for fiscal year 2010-2011 is available on the Parish website, www.stmoside.org. Click on *Finance* under *Parish Councils*, then click on *Parish Financial Report July 2010 to June 2011* on the right side (or visit our Facebook page—www.facebook.com/StThomasMoreRCC).

For those without internet access, copies are available at the information table on the Plaza after weekend Masses and at the Parish Office during the week.

2011 Collection for National Needs

Envelopes were attached to the bulletin at the beginning of this month for this special collection sponsored by the United State Conference of Catholic Bishop to support several national Catholic nonprofit organizations (listed on the envelope). You may return the envelope any time during November. Thank you!

Liturgy & Music

Worship God

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

ADVENT

Summoned to a new beginning

Aurelie Hagstrom
 is an associate
 professor and chair
 of the department
 of theology at
 Providence College
 in Rhode Island.

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 September 2011
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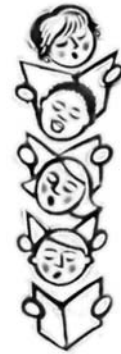
The season of Advent resets the clocks and calendars of Christian worship. The liturgical readings, antiphons, and music that the church gives us in this season attempt to broaden and stretch the rhythms and motions of Advent in our own lives. We await the coming of the Messiah as the ancient Israelites did. We wait for his coming in our own lives and his glorious coming at the end of time. The Advent treasury of the church inspires our imagination and heightens our sensitivity to the saving presence of the Lord.

The churches of France and Spain started to celebrate a preparation season before the feast of Christmas around the beginning of the fourth century. This season became universal in the church by the sixth century. In some places, the season lasted six weeks; in others, four weeks. Advent was originally

considered a kind of “second Lent” because the early Christians fasted, prayed, did penance, and confessed their sins much as they did during Lent. Even the liturgical penitential color of purple was shared by both Lent and Advent.

This ever-ancient, ever-new season of Advent summons us to a new beginning. Another year in the church’s calendar of redemption begins. We enter into the Christ-mystery dynamic once again, and we are drawn deeper and deeper into our relationship with Christ. Through word and sacrament, the church invites us to encounter Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. Our encounter is not with a distant figure of the past but a daily contemporary. The Advent readings in the liturgy of the Mass and in the Liturgy of the Hours enable us to encounter Jesus in very concrete ways: in the Old Testament prophecies, we can relate to the struggles and hopes of the Israelites as they longed for the coming Messiah; in the Gospel readings, we can relate to the challenging journeys of Elizabeth, Zechariah, Joseph, and Mary.

Too often, Advent is considered merely a shopping season to prepare us for Christmas. Understood correctly, however, it is a season that prepares us for the three comings of the Lord: his coming as an infant in the incarnation, his coming as judge of the living and dead at the end of time, and his coming into our lives every day in big and small ways.



Children's Christmas Choir

All children, grades 2-8,
 are invited to sing in the
 Children’s Christmas Choir.

REHEARSALS

Wednesdays
 December 1, 8, and 15
 5:00-6:15pm

Thursday
 December 23
 7:00-7:45pm
 (with the combined choirs)

CHRISTMAS EVE

Saturday
 December 24
 4:00pm Mass

Upcoming Music

DECEMBER 4
 2nd Sunday of
 Advent

5:00pm Mass
 Sanctuary Choir

8:30am Mass
 Handbell Choir

10:30am Mass
 Praise Team

DECEMBER 8
 Immaculate
 Conception of
 Mary

8:15am Mass
 Cantor &
 Congregation

7:00pm Mass
 Sanctuary Choir



ADVENT

Friday, December 2 ♦ 9:00am - 7:30pm ♦ Eucharistic Exposition

FEAST OF BLESSED RAFAL CHYLINSKI

We pray...that we will prepare the way of the Lord.

Faith Formation

Teach and Live the Gospel

Kathleen Bell

Director of Faith Formation

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



We Celebrate FORGIVENESS

Today is our Parish's communal celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation at 4:00pm. All Parishioners are strongly encouraged to attend, not only for our own experience of the forgiveness of our loving God, but also to bear witness and celebrate with our children who approach this Sacrament for the first time.

Xavier James Alexander
Alexandra Rose Benyo
Avery Anne Berry
Devon Glen Bullington
Cristian Esteban Castillo
Giovanni Isaiah T. Cepeda
Kalani Jesse T. Cepeda
Kristian Gian T. Cepeda
Chloe Eloise Fermin
Sasha Nicole Garcia-Zych
Anthony Joseph Granata
Olivia Rose Marie Hartdegen
Mason Gary Headrick
Ty Joseph Hejny
Brandon Paul Hernandez
Brett Matthew Hernandez
Annika Julia Jaksch
Michael Patrick Murphy
Kathryn Lynn Novacek
Grace JosefAnne O' Malley
Devin Marina Oswald
Angelena Marie Papania
Sophia Nicole Prosser
Francis Zachary Rushford
Caleb Patrick Schanzenbach
Michael Ryan Solari
Chase Mitchell Toland
Madeleine Veneracion
Tan Riley Balais Viado
Taylor May Willson
Ethan Edward Zack

Today is a **RE.A.CH** day
at Home

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Home Session:</i> | <i>Nov. 27*</i> |
| Church Session: | Dec. 4 |
| Church Session: | Dec. 11 |
| <i>Home Session:</i> | <i>Dec. 18*</i> |
| <i>Home Session:</i> | <i>Dec. 25*</i> |
| <i>Home Session:</i> | <i>Jan. 1*</i> |
| <i>Home Session:</i> | <i>Jan. 8*</i> |
| Church Session: | Jan. 15 |

**Check your Annual Plan for each week's lesson.*



Walk into the Future . . .

**Come See the Interior
of Our New Church**

Wednesday, December 14, 7:00pm

Years in the design, our permanent church building is nearly ready to begin construction. With groundbreaking on the new worship space slated for January 2012, what better way to celebrate than to take a virtual tour of the interior of the new building in December?

Come and see for yourself what hours of town hall meetings and committee discussions have accomplished! Presented by the project's Liturgical Consultant, Robert Habiger, this extended presentation will answer all your questions about the inside of our church building.



Robert is an Associate of Dekker/Perich/Sabatini and directs the religious practice area for the firm. A registered architect since 1975, he has over 40 years experience with all types of architecture, with an emphasis in ecclesiastical projects. His projects are known for their participatory design process and creative design solutions.

PBJ Update

(Food for children at the Emergency Crisis Center)

2012 GOAL: 365 jars
Collected to date: 2 jars



*Our count begins again today
with the new church year*

YOUTH MINISTRY

Marc Raymundo,
Youth Advocate

High School ✦ IGNITE

SPEND LESS! We're not talking about just money! We are getting down to what we spend time on; where we spend our efforts. Let's center our hearts and become new this winter season. Bring your friends here at 7:00pm. Let's do this together!

✦ Middle School

Next EDGE Class is on December 4! It is always a blessing seeing you all there.

✦ Advent and a New Perspective

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

www.stmosideym.org

Stewardship & Development

Serve God's People

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

Christian Stewardship Gratitude: The Heart of Thanksgiving

In the U.S., Thanksgiving Day is a holiday that is among the nation's finest national traditions. Setting a day aside for giving thanks to God is not only a U.S. phenomenon. Canadians have a Thanksgiving Day, and many countries worldwide celebrate harvest festivals that express gratitude to God.

For Christian stewards, Thanksgiving Day has special meaning, for we know that gratitude lies at the very heart of stewardship. A grateful heart heralds the beginning of discipleship and opens the way to our deepest response, the desire to return to God for the bounty of our lives.

The French educator Jean Baptiste Massieu put it beautifully: "Gratitude is the memory of the heart."

For what do we thank our Creator? The early American colonists, who gave inspiration to the Thanksgiving Day tradition, were thankful for their very survival in a harsh and unforgiving environment. Many of their compatriots were buried in the soil of their new land, far from all that had been cherished and familiar.



It's natural to thank God when things seem to turn out the way we had hoped, when disaster is averted, when life seems filled with abundance.

Harder, perhaps, is the ability to thank God for being present to us in times of struggle, seeming failure, illness, and death, especially this time of year.

But, in the heart of the Christian steward, the memory of God's presence is a comfort and a gift all its own.

If we take time to reflect on our lives, we often discover that that for which we are most grateful was a gift which we struggled to receive. What came to us in the form of hardship has in hindsight revealed itself as gift. This is why each day's struggles and trials should be met with a heartfelt "thank you."

Meister Eckhart, the 14th century Dominican mystic, wrote, "If the only prayer you ever say is 'thank you,' that will suffice." At first, this seems puzzling. What of praise and petition? But Eckhart knew that the most genuine response, and indeed, the first and most spontaneous response of the heart which has discovered God, is "thank you." Gratitude lies at the beginning of true prayer.

As we reflect on this time of thanksgiving, let us be present to those moments when God's gifts were hidden in shadow and remember to be thankful for all.

—ICSC Parish Stewardship, November 2011 (with permission)

In the heart of the Christian Steward, the memory of God's presence is a comfort and a gift all its own.

HELPFUL YEAR-END PLANNING TIPS GOT DEDUCTIONS?

2011 YEAR-END CHECKLIST

- ◆ **BE SURE TO COMPLETE** all gifts by December 31 to qualify for tax savings on this year's tax return. **Advance planning with the parish office is essential, since the office will be closed from December 24, 2011/January 1, 2012. Gifts received in the offertory at Mass on Saturday, December 31 will be credited for year ending 2011.**
- ◆ **Envelopes POSTMARKED by Saturday, December 31, 2011 will be counted toward this tax year.**
- ◆ **Donations received on Sunday, January 1, 2012 will be credited in the new year, 2012.**
- ◆ **Annual Catholic Appeal** ~ Parishioners with a balance due on their pledges made to this year's ACA are requested to conclude their payments by December 31, 2011. *Tithing families, know that your tithe covers your ACA contribution.)*
- ◆ Keep all gift receipts and acknowledgment letters, especially for gifts of \$250 or more.
- ◆ If you sold securities this year and will owe capital gains tax, remember that gifts of cash or other securities may partially or fully offset any tax on your gains.

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

All gifts to St. Thomas More are deeply appreciated!

Collection for Week of November 19/20, 2011

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Number of Registered Households | | 1,028 |
| Offertory* | \$ | 10,068.38 |
| Offertory (Loose Collection) | | 1,293.00 |
| Children's envelopes | | 0.00 |
| Total | \$ | 11,361.38 |

* Offertory envelopes, credit card withdrawals, automatic checking or savings account deductions (credit card and automatic bank account withdrawals are posted at STM on the 5th and/or 20th of each month).

Ways to Help Support Your Parish

We offer a variety of options for easier giving. In addition to the extra 'mail-back' envelopes included in your packet, we offer automatic credit card withdrawal (Visa, MC, or Discover) and automatic checking/savings account deduction. For more information, contact the Parish Office at 760-758-4100 x100 or parish.office@stmoside.org.

St. Francis and St. Thomas More Offertory Envelopes

Any St. Francis Offertory Envelopes given to the offertory collection at St. Thomas More will be returned to St. Francis.

Any St. Thomas More Offertory Envelopes given to the offertory collection at St. Francis will be returned to St. Thomas More.

News from the Larger Church

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

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

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

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

Young Adult Ministry Activities in San Diego County—Visit www.yamsd.org for complete information on events for young adults, including *Theology on Tap* and a Christmas party.

Lectures and Retreats at Mission San Luis Rey in Oceanside—Visit www.sanluisrey.org or call 760-757-3659 for details on upcoming events, including a concert featuring Bob Hurd on Saturday, December 3, at 8:00pm and a Serenity Retreat with Fr. Tom Weston, January 20-22.

Contemplative Rosary—Friday, December 2, 7:00pm, San Rafael Catholic Church, 17252 Bernardo Center Dr., Rancho Bernardo. Sung by the Rosary Choir and congregation. For more information, contact 858-487-4314.

Brother Benno's Auxiliary Luncheon—Saturday, December 3, 11:30am, Sheraton Carlsbad Resort and Spa. Includes door prizes, silent auction, and entertainment by the "Hot Flashes." For more

information, contact Vera Bayliss at 760-739-9061.

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

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

Ignatian Volunteer Corps for Retired or Semi-Retired—Serve people who are poor one or two days a week, grow deeper in faith through reflection and prayer, and meet monthly with other IVC members and a spiritual guide. For more information, visit www.ivcusa.org or contact 619-881-9509.

Volunteers Needed as Advocates for Foster Children—Become a child advocate and make a lasting difference in the life of a foster child. More than just a mentor, you can give hope to a child who has none. For upcoming information session dates, contact www.speakupnow.org or 858-569-2235.

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

Weekly Rosary in Carlsbad—A group of North County Parishioners meets every Monday from 10:00-10:30am to peacefully pray the rosary in front of the Carlsbad Planned Parenthood Clinic. The clinic is located at 1820 Marron Road, in the shopping center just west of Plaza Camino Real Mall. Please join us in our prayers to promote a culture of life. For more information, please call Richard Hodges at 760-439-3415 or Jahna White at 760-586-6356.

News from St. Francis Church

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

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

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

St. Francis Women's Guild is having an Arts and Crafts Bazaar on December 3-4. Mark your calendars and plan to shop for Christmas gifts! If you'd like to sell items at the bazaar, contact Cindy Bang at the St. Francis Parish Office, 760-945-8000.

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

Marriage & Family Life Corner

The Bishops' Letter on Marriage—Imitating Christ: "Christian spouses are called to this imitation of Christ, an imitation that is possible only because, in the Sacrament of Matrimony, the couple receives a participation in his love. As a sacrament, marriage signifies and makes present in the couple Christ's total self-gift of love. Their mutual gift of self, conferred in their promises of fidelity and love to the end, becomes a participation in the love to the end by which Christ gave himself to the Church as to a Spouse (see Jn 13:1)." To read the document go to <http://www.usccb.org/loveandlife/>.

Marriage Moments—"Let there be spaces in your togetherness." (Kahlil Gibran) As wonderful as togetherness is, where do you go to get some space just for yourself? Do you have a special time, place, or hobby that regenerates your spirit?

Parenting Pointers—The day after Thanksgiving offered us some free time - especially if leftovers free up cooking time. How will you use your time today? Hectic shopping? Nurturing family ties? Missing someone dear? Relaxing? Make family your priority.

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



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

Parish Contacts

Updated 10/16/11

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

Pastoral Council Committees

Faith Formation & EvangelizationRory Griffin 760-414-3939

- Religious Education (Adults)..... Wayne Zych 760-598-9244
- Small Church Communities Sondra Parks 760-598-1269
- Little Rock Bible Studies Pauline Lapre 760-727-8339
- Religious Education (Children)..... Kathleen Bell 760-758-4100 x110
- Liturgy of the Word for Children..... Cathy Meyer 760-598-7853
- Sacramental Preparation..... Kathleen Bell 760-758-4100 x110
- Mid. Sch. Youth Ministry Marc Raymundo 760-758-4100 x161
- High School Youth Ministry..... Marc Raymundo 760-758-4100 x161
- Young Adult Ministry..... Marc Raymundo 760-758-4100 x161
- Women's Minsity/Fellowship.....Debbie Fredette 760-630-1946
- Men's Fellowship.....John Fredette 760-630-1946
- Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs Regina Aulisio 760-295-5530
- Evangelization..... Available
- Vocations Available
- RCIA..... Kathleen Bell 760-758-4100 x110

LiturgyKathy Arciero 760-231-1022

- Altar Linen CareAnna Meyers 760-727-4998
- Bereavement FacilitatorSr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131
- Environment & Art Kathy Arciero 760-231-1022
- Eucharistic Adoration Available
- Interior Design Team Pat & Phil Goscienski 760-732-1414
- Liturgical Ministries.....Douglas Lynn 760-758-4100 x140
- Liturgical Music.....Douglas Lynn 760-758-4100 x140

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

- ACTTS Young AdultsJen Frost actts@stmoside.org
- Family Services..... Rev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100
- Marriage Preparation..... Rev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100
- Widows & Widowers of North County.....Carol Kope 760-726-0533
- Germaine Wilmott 760-758-9949

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

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

Social Ministries Dick & Charlene Belprez 760-295-1431

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

- Brother Benno's Collections..... Deacon Tom Goeltz 760-727-8442
-Mike Nichols 760-822-3664
- Brother Benno's Kitchen Servers George Jones 760-940-9288
- Christmas Angel Ministry..... John & Marti Harper 760-724-1181
- Culture of LifeJane Kelleher 760-822-7041
- CPR/AED Classes..... Phil Goscienski 760-732-1414
- Disability Facilitation Ann Eriksson 760-599-7151
- Faith Works Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131
- Fraternity & Michaelle House.....Diantha Zschoche 760-685-0081
- Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice
- Joyce Meehan 760-724-4974
- Jail Ministry Rita McCarthy 760-758-4100 x100
- JustFaith..... Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131
- Cathy Blecki 760-603-8930
- More's Workers Jerry Gayvert 760-295-0645
- North County Solutions for Change (NCSC)
- Dick & Charlene Belprez 760-295-1431
- Prayer Request Line Pat Wong 760-806-1310
- Norma Flanagan 760-630-0180
- Project Linus..... Mary Coxon 760-599-8760
- Sick & Homebound (*Eucharist*) Jean McCloskey 760-643-2363
- Social Justice Sr. Maureen Brown 760-758-4100 x131
- St. Bonaventure Mission..... Knights of Columbus 760-734-1934

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

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

Development Council Committees

- Annual Catholic Appeal..... Flora Fallone 760-758-4100 x100
- Capital Campaign Bill Ipsen 760-723-0402
- New Construction Brian Leahey 760-598-5697
- Parish Membership Valerie Thompson 760-630-1703
- Planned Giving Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120
- Publicity/Public Relations..... Anne Marshall 760-727-2668
- Sacrificial Giving/Tithing Paul Ibbetson 760-734-1051
- Scrip Sales Theresa Goeltz 760-453-2876
- Stewardship Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120
- Vehicle Donations..... Vlad Bolsakov 760-758-4100 x100
- Welcome Ministry Chris Smith 760-758-4100 x120

Pastoral Staff

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

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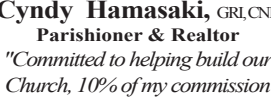
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Christmas Angel Update!

Menu of Ornaments



Choose a stocking and purchase several small items for stockings and gift bags.

DUE BACK BY SUNDAY 12/04



Choose a gingerbread man to Adopt-a-Family from Camp Pendleton Naval Hospital. This is an anonymous donation of new toys, clothes, gift cards and any other special treats for families ranging from three to seven members. See an angel at the table for more information.

DUE AT OFFICE NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY 12/14



Choose a snowflake to purchase gift cards of all sorts for bookstores, toy stores, convenience stores, etc. Order gift cards through the Scrip Table or see an angel at the tree.

DUE BACK BY SUNDAY 12/11



Choose a star (pink for girls, green for boys) to purchase individual gifts by age.

DUE BACK BY SUNDAY 12/11

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For more information, contact John & Marti Harper at 760-724-1181 or 4johnnysangel@cox.net