

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

“OUR PARISH, OUR DIOCESE, TOGETHER IN CHRIST”—is this year’s theme for the 2011 Annual Diocesan Appeal. In the words of Bishop McGrath: “as a Church, we are connected to one another—parishioner to parishioner, family to family, parish to parish—joined as one in the Lord. We stand “Together in Christ” as a people of faith.”

Your generosity toward the Annual Diocesan Appeal has provided essential support to St. Thomas Aquinas Parish and the other 52 parishes of our local Church.

The ADA supports diocesan offices including Pastoral Services, Youth & Young Adults, and Liturgy, as well as Vocations, Missions, the Valley Catholic, Detention Ministry, The Institute for Leadership in Ministry, Seminarians, funding for the care of Clergy, Religious and Lay Personnel, and Catholic Education.

Our parish portion of the Annual Diocesan Appeal is \$120,000— 2.2% of the overall diocesan goal of \$5,489,484. We are so appreciative that you share with us a heartfelt belief in the work and ministry that is made possible by your pledge. Please consider joining other parishioners in making a gift to the ADA in 2011. Perhaps you will consider increasing your gift by \$10 or \$25 per month or \$50 or \$100 over the 10-month pledge period?

Pledge Sunday is February 7th. Please pray over the size of the gift you will be able to make and bring your pledge card and envelope to Mass that weekend. Early pledges will also be gratefully accepted.

Fr. Matt, Pastor



MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, January 30:
7:30 am STA... John Pilling †
10:30 am OLR . . Rudy Decaminada †
10:30 am STA... Ignacio Quismorio †
Readings: Zep 2:3; 3:12-13; Ps 146; 1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 5:1-12a

Monday, January 31: St. John Bosco
Readings: Heb 11:32-40; Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday, February 1:
Readings: Heb 12:1-4; Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday, February 2:
Readings: Mal 3:1-4; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 [22-32]

Thursday, February 3: St. Blase; St. Ansgar
Readings: Heb 12:18-19, 21-24; Mk 6:7-13

Friday, February 4:
8:30 am OLR . . . Barbara Franceschi †
Readings: Heb 13:1-8; Mk 6:14-29

Saturday, February 5: St. Agatha
Readings: Heb 13:15-17, 20-21; Mk 6:30-34

SPIRITUALITY TUESDAY

Tuesday, February 1, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. in the St. Albert the Great Hospitality Center. Refreshments too! Please come join us! The Rite of Anointing the Sick, with Father Matt. Is this different from the Last Rites? Bring your Questions; he has the answers.

PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

Saturday & Sunday Feb 5 & 6, 2011

St. Albert the Great
Sat 5:00 pm Fr. Stanley
Sun 9:00 am Fr. Poncini
Sun 11:00 am Fr. Hernandez

St. Thomas Aquinas
Sun 7:30 am Fr. Hester
Sun 8:45 am Fr. Sandersfeld
Sun 10:30 am Fr. Valenton
Sun 12 noon TBA

Our Lady of the Rosary
Sun 9:00 am Fr. Gammad
Sun 10:30 am Fr. Seimas

PRAYERS FOR BISHOP MCGRATH

Bishop McGrath flew to Rome last week, on his way to a meeting in the Holy Land. Soon after his arrival in Rome, he fell, breaking the humerus bone of his left arm in five places. The bishop was able to fly back to California and may have to undergo surgery to repair the fractures later this week. He should regain full use of his arm after several weeks of recovery. Bishop P.J. appreciates your prayers.



Please Pray

FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND — Nicholas Humy, Betty Hofsetter, Msgr. William Lenane, Fr. Thierry Geris, Frank Briggs Sr., Tom Halderman, Diane Zscheile, Kelly Vitorino, Quirico Japlit, Mary Agnes Early, Rev. John Butcher, Juliana Crozier, Bishop McGrath



FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED — Reid Scott, Lina Dirlak, Barbara Smith, Peter Bisacca, Susan Gerlach, Betty Schauer

Pray For Lists guidelines: • Have permission from the person to be listed. • Go through the Pastoral Home Ministry to list the names. • Names will be on the list for 3 months and then be removed. • Can request names to be continued after 3 months. Contact the Pastoral Home Ministry 650-494-2496 x22 or fongmt@hotmail.com

Please note our email address:
bulletin@paloaltocatholic.org

BULLETIN ARTICLE DUE
Feb 13 . . . **Thu** Feb 3 noon
Feb 20 . . . **Thu** Feb 10 noon



Our Weekly Offering

January 2 \$ 11,612.48
thank you for your continued generosity

Year To Date

Actual YTD . . . \$ 267,586.78
Budget YTD . . \$ 270,627.01
Variance - 1.12%

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, January 30: Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time; Catholic Schools Week
8:30 am Hospitality Sundays (OLRH)
9:15, 10:15 am .. Rel. Ed. (ISC/SESS)
11:30 am Byzantines (SAGH)
7:00 pm STAY (OLRH/DC)

Monday, January 31:

Tuesday, February 1:
7:00 pm Spirituality Tuesdays (SAGH)
7:00 pm Sp. Prayer Group (OLRH)

Wednesday, February 2: The Presentation of the Lord; Groundhog Day
6:00 pm SOUP (OLRH)

Thursday, February 3: Blessing of Throats; Chinese New Year 4709

Friday, February 4: First Friday
7:00 pm Sp. Young Adults (OLRH)

Saturday, February 5: First Saturday

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

...In The Spiritual Care Program Stanford University Hospital. The Spiritual Care Service at Stanford Hospital is seeking Catholic volunteers to visit, pray and offer the Eucharist to patients and families. Volunteers must be willing to commit two hours a week for a year and attend 5 evenings of training.

A Training Program will be held at Our Lady of the Rosary Hall, 3233 Cowper Street, Palo Alto on five Monday evenings March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4 7 pm- 9 pm.

If you are interested in volunteering, please request an application by calling the Spiritual Care Service office at 650.723.5101 or email ghollingsworth@stanfordmed.org Remember to leave your name, phone number, church affiliation and email address. Interviews begin now through February 18, 2011.

VATICAN ASTRONOMER TO SPEAK FEB. 4

Vatican astronomer Brother Guy Consolmagno, S.J., will speak Friday, February 4, at 7:30 p.m., at the Lucie Stern Community Center Ballroom, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. Sponsored by the Adult Education Committee of the Thomas Merton Center, Brother Guy's topic is "Astronomy, God, and the Search for Elegance."

AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED!

The Knights of Columbus will be holding a Silent Auction in conjunction with their Crab Dinner Dance on February 19. If you have quality art objects or home equipment or other items that would make a nice auction item, please contact either Paul Vavuris (494-3572) or John Uebbing (494-2450). You can also drop the items off at John's, 665 Towle Way. The proceeds from the auction will go to St. Elizabeth Seton School, as in the past.

WIDOWS & WIDOWERS

All WW members are invited to Call Pat by Jan 31st for reservations... It is the last day to reserve Bob Supp's Famous Cioppino Served at the House Closest to Where the Fish Live (Pat Muller's), Thursday, February 3, 1:00 p.m. Anyone that are widowed and would like to come and join us are heartily welcome to this special meeting. Call Pat for reservations at 650-712-1158. If you would like a ride we will pick you up. For rides please call 650-208-3682. Instead of everyone bringing fish for the pot, we will charge \$25 per person to cover the cost of fish and wine and great company. To celebrate Valentine's Day, please bring a small Valentine gift for one person to be used as a table favor.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

Parish Volunteer Appreciation & Thank You, Saturday, February 12, 2011, St. Elizabeth Seton School Auditorium, 2:00 p.m. Hosted by the appreciative St. Thomas Aquinas staff to thank our wonderful parish volunteers. RSVPs to the Pastoral Center are very helpful for our planning: please call 494-2496 or send email to admin@paloaltocatholic.org to let us know you are planning to attend.

"ZACCHAEUS COURSE" – A NEW PROGRAM IN THE PARISH

The Zacchaeus Course is a course of spiritual and practical formation to implement the Social Doctrine of the Catholic Church in our daily life. It is aimed at unifying faith and action and at enabling a Christian way of life.

Jesus is telling us today "I want to stay in your house" as he told Zacchaeus in the Gospel. (Luke 19,5) Over a year:

- Teachings: to understand the Social Doctrine of the Church
- Personal exercises: to implement it in our daily life
- Sharing: to spur and make progress together
- Praying: to let Christ act in us and guide us
- Step-by-step: a transformation

The first meeting will be on Thursday, February 10th at 7:30pm at St Albert the Great Hospitality Center. Contacts: Thibaut de Bretagne - thibautdebretagne@gmail.com - 650 492 1146; Anne Grycz - annegrycz@comcast.net - 650-961-5749; Robert Napaa - bnapaa@yahoo.com

January 30, 2011

ST. ELIZABETH SETON SCHOOL

Catholic Schools Week – January 30– February 4, 2011
School Mass and Open House

You are invited to St. Elizabeth Seton School's School Mass on Tuesday, February 1st, 2011. Mass will be at 10:00a.m. at St. Albert's. We will have an Open House on Wednesday February 2nd., parents are welcome to visit the classrooms from 8:30a.m. to 11:30a.m. Some of the activities during Catholic Schools Week include:

- Faculty and Staff Appreciation Day, Cultural Appreciation Day, Community Day, Parent Appreciation Day and Student Appreciation Day.
- Color and Movie Day and special treats.

NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY — St. Elizabeth Seton School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin, and does not discriminate on the basis of race color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic programs and other school-administered programs.

THE U.S. BISHOPS' REPORT – PART I

The Bishops' Conference reviewed last year's national legislative pluses and minuses and listed some ongoing issues of concern, both domestic and foreign, for this year. The extension of unemployment insurance for 13 months and the 2-year continuance of the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit were good; also the continuance of child nutrition programs. Not so good -- the reduction of food stamps. Housing issues: Not good - no funding for a trust fund to build or rehabilitate housing for very low income people. Good - supportive housing for the elderly with funds to rehabilitate older buildings for elderly residents.

Next week: Part II - domestic issues for 2011.

Human Concerns Committee

EVERYONE IS GREEN ON ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Long before St. Thomas Aquinas Parish determined to be a Green Parish, the legacy of St. Patrick's Day lived the tradition! Join in the fun this year for an evening of hospitality and Irish tradition on Saturday, March 19, 6:00 - 8:30 PM. The program is ideal for young families and seniors -- safe, entertaining, welcoming, and inexpensive. Live Irish music and dancing, food, singing, hospitality. See you there -- St. Elizabeth Seton Auditorium (adjacent to St. Albert the Great Church), 1095 Channing Ave, PA. Tickets on sale Mar 5 - 6. Interested to serve as a program volunteer? Contact Joe Kinsella: 650-619-3750.