

# Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## TODAY'S MESSAGE

### CATECHESIS: HOW TO HAND ON OUR FAITH

At our last OLR STAKids Parent Gathering, we talked about the process of handing down our faith to our children. I was asked for some helpful hints that parents might use at home.

Here are two suggestions: Imagination & Storytelling. For example, try role-playing and acting-out bible stories or real-life situations. The Bible is filled with wonderful stories to help us understand what it means to love God and our neighbor. Props can add to this experience such as using a large box as a boat to travel with Jesus on the Sea of Galilee.

Promote Active Learning. One idea might be to use music with gestures or movement to reinforce concepts. There is music for every age and every genre. Explore gifts & talents through crafts, drawing, journaling, scrap booking, coloring, dancing, singing, song-writing, or making a collage with colorful magazine photos. Allow children to choose their favorite story and how they would like to share it with the family.

*Sue Clingingsmith, Director of Religious Education*

## NEW PAROCHIAL VICAR ASSIGNED TO OUR PARISH

Last week, I received a letter from Bishop McGrath assigning Fr. Randy Valenton to our parish as a parochial vicar. Fr. Randy had been serving nearby at St. Simon Parish in Los Altos; prior to that assignment, Fr. Randy served at St. Maria Goretti Parish in San Jose. This is truly good news, considering Fr. Thierry's medical leave of absence. Please welcome Fr. Randy as he moves through the parish, Sunday by Sunday. A more complete biography will be forthcoming. *Fr. Matt, Pastor*

## 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](mailto:admin@paloaltocatholic.org) to let us know you are planning to attend.



### 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, Mary Lee Hagen

**FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED** — Reid Scott, Lina Dirlik, Barbara Smith, Peter Bisacca, Susan Gerlach, Betty Schauer, Edna Kansora

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](mailto:fongmt@hotmail.com)



## MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, February 6:

7:30 am STA... John Pilling †

10:30 am OLR . . Jacqueline Balbiani †

10:30 am STA... Dr. William McCain †

Readings: *Is 58:7-10; Ps 112; 1 Cor 2:1-5; Mt 5:13-16*

Monday, February 7:

Readings: *Gn 1:1-19; Mk 6:53-56*

Tuesday, February 8: St. Jerome Emiliani;

St. Josephine Bakhita

8:30 am OLR . . . James Teresi †

Readings: *Gn 1:20 — 2:4a; Mk 7:1-13*

Wednesday, February 9:

Readings: *Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17; Mk 7:14-23*

Thursday, February 10: St. Scholastica

Readings: *Gn 2:18-25; Mk 7:24-30*

Friday, February 11:

Readings: *Gn 3:1-8; Mk 7:31-37*

Saturday, February 12:

Readings: *Gn 3:9-24; Mk 8:1-10*

## SPIRITUALITY TUESDAYS

Tuesday February 8th. Scripture and Faith Sharing, led by Deacon Daniel. There will be Bibles provided and copies of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Spend an evening exploring the Gospels.

## PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

Saturday & Sunday Feb 12 & 13, 2011

St. Albert the Great

Sat 5:00 pm . . . . . Fr. Stanley

Sun 9:00 am . . . . . Fr. Valenton

Sun 11:00 am . . . . . Fr. Hernandez

St. Thomas Aquinas

Sun 7:30 am . . . . . Fr. Hester

Sun 8:45 am . . . . . Fr. Brown

Sun 10:30 am . . . . . Fr. Valenton

Sun 12 noon . . . . . Fr. Kromholtz

Our Lady of the Rosary

Sun 9:00 am . . . . . Fr. Gammad

Sun 10:30 am . . . . . Fr. Seimas

Sun 6:00 pm Youth . . . . . Fr. Stanley

Please note our email address:  
[bulletin@paloaltocatholic.org](mailto:bulletin@paloaltocatholic.org)

BULLETIN . . . . . ARTICLE DUE  
Feb 20 . . . **Thu** Feb 10 noon  
Feb 27 . . . **Thu** Feb 17 noon



### Our Weekly Offering

January 9 . . . . . \$ 10,133.23  
Ethnic Ministries . . . . . \$ 2,396.00  
*thank you for your continued generosity*

### Year To Date

Actual YTD . . . \$ 277,720.01  
Budget YTD . . \$ 280,873.55  
Variance . . . . . - 1.12%

# St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

## THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, February 6: Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time; World Day for Consecrated Life; Boy Scout Sunday  
9:15, 10:15 am .. Rel. Ed. (ISC/SESS)  
11:30 am ..... Byzantines (SAGH)  
7:00 pm ..... STAY (OLRH/DC)

Monday, February 7:

Tuesday, February 8:  
7:00 pm ..... Spirituality Tuesdays (SAGH)  
7:00 pm ..... Sp. Prayer Group (OLRH)

Wednesday, February 9:  
7:00 pm ..... PSC (OLRH)

Thursday, February 10:  
10:00 am ..... Seton Dev. Board (SAGH)  
7:30 pm ..... Zacchaeus Course (SAGH)

Friday, February 11: Our Lady of Lourdes; World Day of the Sick  
10:00 am ..... Rel. Ed. Board (PC)  
11:00 am ..... Rosalie Rendu Center (SAGH)  
7:00 pm ..... Sp. Young Adults (OLRH)

Saturday, February 12: Blessed Virgin Mary; Lincoln's Birthday  
2:00 pm ..... Volunteer Appreciation Party (SESA)

## ZACCHAEUS COURSE

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.

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

## TAIZÉ PRAYER AND SONG BEGINS AT OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

Taize Prayer moves to Our Lady of the Rosary, Thursday, February 10th @ 7pm. This type of meditative singing promotes a sense of peace and leads naturally to contemplative prayer. Father Matt refers to it as "An Hour of Power". Get away from daily cares and spend a peaceful moment with our Lord in prayer. Other OLR dates: March 10th; March 24th; and April 7th.

## TICKET SALES THIS WEEKEND

Members of the Knights of Columbus will be selling tickets at all Masses this weekend for their Annual Crab Dinner Dance to be held on February 19. Tickets are \$35 for Adults and \$15 for children under the age of 15. You can also get tickets by calling Michael Lin (650) 856-0186, Paul Vavuris (650) 494-3572, John Uebbing (650) 494-2450, Any K of C Member. If you have quality art objects or home equipment or other items that would make a nice silent auction item, please contact either Paul Vavuris (494-3572) or John Uebbing (494-2450). You can also drop off the items with a minimum price at John's, 665 Towle Way.

## HOSTING THE RELIC OF SAINT MARY MAGDALENE

Eight California bishops, including San Jose Bishop Patrick J. McGrath, sent letters of invitation to the bishop of Fréjus-Toulon in Southern France to carry Saint Mary Magdalene's relic, a major piece of her tibia, in a reliquary to California for a one month tour. A portion of the tibia of Saint Mary Magdalene is enclosed in a glass tube and then placed in the reliquary. Father François LeHégaret, a French Dominican priest, will carry the relic in a reliquary to Northern California for its debut on Saint Valentine's Day (February 14th) in Oakland at St. Albert Priory—The Western Dominican Provincial House.

For two weeks the relic will visit churches in Northern California. Father Thomas Michelet, another French Dominican priest, will then escort the relic to Southern California, coming to St. Thomas Aquinas Church on Tuesday, February 22nd for Veneration beginning at 12:00 noon with the regular weekday Mass at 12:15 pm and a Special Mass at 6:00 pm. Hours of Veneration will end at 8 pm.

The purpose of the tour, which continues through March 15th, is to share the holiness of the relic and to tell the story of the saint who is recorded as the first witness to the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. She is often referred to as Apostle to the Apostles.

## PASTORAL HOME MINISTRY

Pastoral Home Ministry offers spiritual and social support for the sick and homebound parishioners of all ages. Among the services we provide:

- Bring communion to individuals
- Provide communion services to groups at retirement and nursing homes.
- Help arrange transportation to Mass.
- Read or write letters and do other small errands.
- Maintain Prayer Circle pray for lists

We have information on Avenidas, the Senior Center with its many programs, courses and services; the Palo Alto Center for the Blind; Outreach transportation services and Kara Grief Counseling services. If you know of anyone who is elderly or has to be homebound for any reason contact the Pastoral Home Ministry at the Pastoral Center and leave a message. We will respond as quickly as possible. Contact Pat Dietrich or Mary Fong at (650) 494-2496 X22.

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# February 6, 2011

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## STAYOUTH

Youth Ministry programs at St. Thomas Aquinas are going well—lots going on!

The next youth and family Mass will be on Sunday, February 13 at 6 pm. All families are invited; especially those who have middle school and high school aged students. Dinner will be provided for the youth at 7:00 pm, followed by programming at 7:30 until 8:30 pm. The Confirmation class from First Congregational Church in Palo Alto will be joining us...all are welcome!

The next Confirmation session will be held on Sunday, February 27 at 6:00 until 7:00 pm. Confirmation candidates attended an inspirational retreat last weekend—a good time was had by all.

There is no STAY session on Sunday, February 20. The high school group will not meet on Sunday, February 6, but will meet February 13 and 27. The middle school group will meet on February 6, 13, and 27 and will be learning about God the Son. High schoolers will be learning about Catholic values around partying and alcohol use.

## THE U.S. BISHOPS' REPORT – PART II

Domestic Issues: Clearly, money to maintain adequate funding levels for safety net programs for the poor and vulnerable will not be easy. Congress may impose caps on entitlement funding and cut other funds to states. Food stamps: The bishops will push to restore the 2010 cuts. On health care: The bishops will prioritize their three moral criteria - (1) access to quality affordable, life-giving health care to all; (2) opposition to funds or insurance plans used for abortion and protection of conscience rights for medical providers; (3) retain current health care afforded immigrants and remove current barriers to accessing it.

Next week: Part III - the international scene.

## THE ST. PATRICK'S DAY GREEN BRIGADE

... Is Joining Ranks -- Always Room For More!

The annual St. Patrick's Day parish event is set for Saturday March 19: a traditionally sold-out evening of legacy Irish entertainment, hospitality, food, and fellowship -- ideal for young families and seniors and everyone in-between! Volunteers are always needed to ensure the evening's fun: ticket sales, greeters, food and beverage service, decorations, clean-up. Join in the satisfactions of a job well-done. So easy to make a difference! Contact Joe Kinsella: 650-364-3705. Slainte.