

# Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

### THE TRUE MEANING OF LOVE

Valentine's day is tomorrow. Traditionally a time for couples to express their love for each other, Valentine's Day, like many other holidays throughout the year, has been taken hostage by the Hallmark Company, among other commercial businesses. In this week's Gospel story, Jesus covers the commandments and challenges us to a whole new covenantal basis for interpreting God's law. We are called to look at the spirit of the law, which calls us to a fuller way of relating to God and one another. So, while a card or flowers can be a sign of love, we are challenged to reflect and then act on how we can truly show our loved ones that we care for them--what simpler way that to spend some quality time with a significant other?

*Rev. Matthew D. Stanley*

## UPDATE FROM FR. THIERRY

Dear friends,

My condition has been stable and I have been receiving radiation therapy every weekday. I will start another cycle of chemo on Monday, Jan. 31st. The doctor says that there has been a minimal shrinkage of the cancer so far, but the therapy sometimes does not have full effect for several months after it is over. Fortunately, the illness has not spread beyond the areas already known. I started losing hair in a significant way a week ago, and decided to have my head shaved. I have quite a different look now!

Please understand that I have been keeping to myself because I need to rest and visits are too taxing for me at this time. You have not been away from my mind, however. A priest friend of mine recently reminded me that God listens to everyone, but especially to those who are weak, ill, or undergoing a trial. This insight led me to pray for those of you who may want or need to be prayed for, with the confidence that my prayer will be particularly fruitful.

God bless,  
*Fr. Thierry*

## MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, February 13:

7:30 am STA... Isabel Mulcahy †

10:30 am OLR . . Guy Bigwood †

*Readings: Sir 15:15-20; Ps 119; 1 Cor 2:6-10;*

*Mt 5:17-37 [20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37]*

Monday, February 14: Ss. Cyril and Methodius

8:30 am OLR . . . Mary Heckler †

*Readings: Gn 4:1-15, 25; Mk 8:11-13*

Tuesday, February 15:

7:15 am STA... James & Edith Dubbs †

*Readings: Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Mk 8:14-21*

Wednesday, February 16:

*Readings: Gn 8:6-13, 20-22; Mk 8:22-26*

Thursday, February 17:

*Readings: Gn 9:1-13; Mk 8:27-33*

Friday, February 18:

7:15 am STA... Vincent, Alice &

Diane Simeone †

*Readings: Gn 11:1-9; Mk 8:34 — 9:1*

Saturday, February 19:

12:15 pm STA . . Maria Teresa Poggesi †

5:00 pm SAG . . . Patrick Flatley †

*Readings: Heb 11:1-7; Mk 9:2-13*

*What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love [God], this God has revealed to us through the Spirit.*

— 1 Corinthians 2:9-10

## PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

Saturday & Sunday Feb 19 & 20, 2011

St. Albert the Great

Sat 5:00 pm . . . . . Fr. Valenton

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. Marini

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

Sun 12 noon . . . . . Fr. Thompson

Our Lady of the Rosary

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

Sun 10:30 am . . . . . Fr. Stanley



### Please Pray

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

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

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)

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

BULLETIN . . . . . ARTICLE DUE  
Feb 27 . . . **Thu** Feb 17 noon  
Mar 6 . . . **Thu** Feb 24 noon



### Our Weekly Offering

January 16 . . . . . \$ 8,884.20  
*thank you for your continued generosity*

### Year To Date

Actual YTD . . . \$ 286,604.21  
Budget YTD . . . \$ 291,120.09  
Variance . . . . . - 1.55%

# St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

## THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, February 13: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time; World Marriage Day

8:30 am ..... Hospitality Sundays (OLRH)

9:15, 10:15 am .. Rel. Ed. (ISC/SESS)

11:30 am ..... Byzantines (SAGH)

3:00 pm ..... Thomas Merton Group (SAGH)

6:00 pm ..... Youth Mass Dinner (OLRH)

Monday, February 14: Valentine's Day

7:30 pm ..... RCIA (PC)

Tuesday, February 15:

10:00 am ..... CNY Lunch (OLRH)

7:00 pm ..... Spirituality Tuesdays (SAGH)

7:00 pm ..... Sp. Prayer Group (OLRH)

7:30 pm ..... Human Concerns (OLRH)

Wednesday, February 16:

12:00 pm ..... STAY Advisory (PC)

6:00 pm ..... SOUP (OLRH)

Thursday, February 17: The Seven Founders of the Order of Servites

Friday, February 18:

7:00 pm ..... Sp. Young Adults (OLRH)

Saturday, February 19: Blessed Virgin Mary

6:00 pm ..... Knights of Columbus Crab Dinner (SESA)

## DIocese 30TH ANNIVERSARY

2011 marks the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the Diocese of San Jose. As we approach our celebration of this 30th Anniversary of our Diocese this coming March 19th, I would like to renew my invitation to your parishioners to join with me in celebrating Mass on the Feast of St. Joseph, husband of Mary at St. Joseph Cathedral Basilica at 10:00am.

With every best wish and kind regard, I remain, Bishop Patrick J. McGrath.

## DEACON CARL & HELEN BUNJE RECEIVES BENEMERENTI AWARD



Deacon Carl Bunje and his wife Helen were celebrated at an appreciation party on January 22, 2011, held at the Seton School Auditorium after the 5:00 p.m. Mass at St. Albert the Great. Here is a portion of the text which Fr. Matt read that afternoon:

Tonight we have the wonderful privilege of celebrating Carl and Helen's service to our parish [as...] a team, working and serving side-by-side, for over 3 decades in the vineyard of the Lord. We have been truly blessed by their dedication to the cause of justice; their indiscriminating love for all, their sense of joy for every task and mission God has placed into their hands. I have the high honor of representing Bishop McGrath in the presentation of a special award to both Carl and Helen.

The Benemerenti medal was instituted by Pope Gregory XVI in 1832 and is conferred on those who have exhibited long and exceptional service to the Catholic Church, their families and their parish community. The word benemerenti means "to a well deserving person" is inscribed on the back of the medal, surrounded by a crown of oak leaves; the ribbon is made of Papal colors, yellow and white.

... This honor is given by our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI to both Carl and Helen.

The official document says: *WE ADORN YOU WITH THIS GOLDEN MEDAL BY OUR POWER THAT DISTINGUISHES YOU IN MATTERS PERTAINING TO CHRISTIANITY, HAVING DILIGENTLY DISCERNED YOU WORTHY OF IT.*



## THANK YOU FROM DEACON CARL

To all Parishioners, Thank you, for a great celebration. It was just fantastic! The Mass, the people, the symbols of honor and thanksgiving, and the fabulous party. Such a celebration! I have never seen or experienced such an outpouring of love, I know it took a lot of planning and effort to make it such a huge success and I am most grateful. *Thank you, thank you, Carl*

## CRAB DINNER DANCE TICKETS

Tickets for the Knights of Columbus Crab Dinner Dance to be held this Saturday will be on sale at all Masses this weekend. Tickets are \$35 for Adults and \$15 for children under the age of 15.

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# February 13, 2011

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## 2011 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

“Our Parish – Our Diocese – Together in Christ” Report #1 (Pre-Pledges) ADA Goal: \$120,000, Pledged: \$19,657, Pledges: 53, 16% of Goal. The 2011 Annual Diocesan Appeal is now underway. 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. Please pray over the size of the gift you will be able to make and bring your pledge envelope to Mass next weekend.

## HOLD ONTO YOUR GREEN

Saturday, 03/19, St. Elizabeth Seton School auditorium, 6:00 - 8:00 or so. You've asked the family if they would like to attend, to participate in one of the longest-standing parish events -- 5 decades and counting! You've even considered volunteering to help out. Now for the best part: it's inflation resistant! Adults - \$15, Children under 12 - \$5. This includes a night of entertainment (Irish music, dancing, sing-along), food (corned beef dinner and authentic soda bread), and hours of memories. Ticket sales start during weekend Masses, Mar 5 - 6. Put aside a little bit of Green for a lot of fun! See you there!

## FREE TAX SERVICE

Free tax preparation for low income next Saturday morning, Feb 19, and March 5 at St. Athanasius,, 160 N. Rengsdorff. for all whose 2010 income was \$49,000 or less. Other Saturdays the service will be at St. Joseph School, 1120 Miramonte. Catholic Charities volunteers, certified by IRS will be present from 9 am to noon.

## THE U.S. BISHOPS' REPORT – PART III

The international scene: The good: New START treaty (passed 71-26). Democratic Republic of Congo: The Security and Exchange Commission took steps to deprive financing of funds to violent militias. Haiti: Emergency relief and long-term reconstruction funding were approved, along with some debt relief and food funding. U.S. international assistance: The bishops will continue to urge more. [It's less than 1% of our national budget] by promoting provisions that reduce poverty, increase efficiency and transparency and strengthen local civil participation. Keeping an eye on: Human rights and religious freedom; [Christians face hostility.], trade agreements: U.S.- Colombia and U.S.-Panama Free Trade. Tinderboxes: Israel-Palestine, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Haiti, Sudan; Of concern: food security, climate change, debt relief, torture. Conclusion: The U.S. bishops have a full load of issues, domestic and foreign. Their concerns are rooted in the principles of Catholic social doctrine: human dignity, the common good, preferential option for the poor, subsidiarity. For our part we're called to prayer, sympathy, attention and advocacy, and self-giving. "No man is an island . . ." – *Human Concerns Committee*