

Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

TODAY'S MESSAGE

LENT: AN INVITATION AND CHALLENGE — The season of Lent is almost upon us—a period of preparation for the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. What will you do to prepare? What does Lent mean to you personally? Is a time of waiting, a time of penance, of preparation, anticipation? Do you feel that Lent is a time when you can't have something? Deny yourself a pleasure? Or is it a season when you willingly give up something you love in honor of all that Jesus made possible for us through his Paschal Mystery? There are as many ways to approach Lent as there are people in the Church.

You can have a “woe is me” attitude or one of giving back to God and our community. You can approach Lent with a renewed awe for the amazing sacrifice that Jesus made to save us; you can live Lent with a greater desire to imitate Christ here on earth.

Whatever you choose, live this Lent by taking a more active role and do something! Donate to the ADA if you've never done that before. Turn off your computer and spend more time with your family. Attend a Spirituality Tuesday session and learn more about our faith. Celebrate the Sacrament of Penance at one of our communal services.

The insert in today's bulletin, “My Lenten Covenant” is a starting place towards actively doing something in preparation for Easter. Will you be prepared?

Nora Lundin, Liturgy Coordinator

UPDATE FROM FR. THIERRY

Dear Friends, The last two weeks have been “interesting” for me. I spent 3 1/2 days at the hospital and was treated for pneumonia. I was released after my temperature went down, but had to go to the Emergency Room a few days later and spend a night under observation due to another fever. They gave me a different antibiotic. I also received a blood transfusion on Friday to increase my red blood cell count.

Now that my chemo and radiation therapy are done for the foreseeable future, my body should start healing itself. My immediate goals are to bring my temperature and heart rate back to normal. This requires me to get plenty of rest, which does not allow me to reply to my incoming email in a timely manner.

I thank the volunteers who have given me rides to the hospital. Going forward, I do not expect to need rides or food. But if I need anything, I will certainly ask for it. God bless, Fr. Thierry

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, March 6:

8:45 am STA . . . Vince Giovannotto †
10:30 am OLR . . . Francoise Abavent †
Readings: Dt 11:18, 26-28, 32; Ps 31;
Rom 3:21-25, 28; Mt 7:21-27

Monday, March 7: Ss. Perpetua and Felicity

8:30 am OLR . . . James & Edith Dubbs †
12:15 pm STA . . . Calista Butler †
Readings: Tb 1:3; 2:1a-8; Mk 12:1-12

Tuesday, March 8: St. John of God

8:30 am OLR . . . Rev. Matthew D. Stanley
(special intention)
Readings: Tb 2:9-14; Mk 12:13-17

Wednesday, March 9: Ash Wednesday

Readings: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51; 2 Cor 5:20 — 6:2;
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday, March 10:

Readings: Dt 30:15-20; Lk 9:22-25

Friday, March 11:

Readings: Is 58:1-9a; Mt 9:14-15

Saturday, March 12:

12:15 pm STA . . .
Readings: Is 58:9b-14; Lk 5:27-32

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all the Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from eating meat. All who 14 years of age and above are bound by this law, and there is no upper age limit. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are also days of fast. This law binds those who are 18 to 59 years of age.

PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

Saturday & Sunday Mar 12 & 13, 2011

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

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

Our Lady of the Rosary
Sun 9:00 am Fr. Gammad
Sun 10:30 am Fr. Stanley
Sun 6:00 pm Youth Fr. Valenton



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, Sr. Jeannette Donnelly

FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED — Reid Scott, Lina Dirlak, Barbara Smith, Peter Bisacca, Susan Gerlach, Betty Schauer, Edna Kansora, Betty Hofstetter, Patricia Jacobsen, Gerald Kosmala, Sybil Ann Pfluke, Jerry Martin

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
Mar 20 ..**Thu** Mar 10 noon
Mar 27 ..**Thu** Mar 17 noon



Our Weekly Offering

January 30 \$ 8,278.01
St. Vincent de Paul \$ 5,182.00
thank you for your continued generosity

Year To Date

Actual YTD . . . \$ 303,501.53
Budget YTD . . \$ 311,613.17
Variance - 2.60%

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, March 6: Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time; Girl Scout Sunday
9:15, 10:15 am .. Lenten Family Day (ISP/ SESS)
8:30 am Hospitality Sundays (OLRH)
11:30 am Byzantines (SAGH)
5:00 pm STAY (OLRH)

Monday, March 7:

6:00 pm Hospital Training (OLRH)
7:00 pm Time & Talent Planning (KC)
7:30 pm RCIA (PC)

Tuesday, March 8:

7:00 pm Spirituality Tuesdays (SAGH)
7:00 pm Sp. Prayer Group (OLRH)

Wednesday, March 9: Ash Wednesday; Fast and Abstinence; *No SOUP*

Thursday, March 10:

10:00 am Seton Dev. Board (SAGH)
7:00 pm Taize Prayer (OLR)
7:00 pm TMC (OLRH)

Friday, March 11: Abstinence

10:00 am Faith Formation (PC)
10:00 am Rel. Ed. Board (PC)
11:00 am Rosalie Rendu Center (SAGH)
7:00 pm Sp. Young Adults (OLRH)

Saturday, March 12: Blessed Virgin Mary

5:00 pm Seminarian Dinner (SAGH)

ASH WEDNESDAY

Mass Schedule March 9, 2011

7:15 am – STA .. Fr. Stanley
8:30 am – OLR .. Fr. Allen
10:00 am – SAG (*SESS - Parishioners welcome*) .. Fr. Valenton
12:15 pm – STA .. Fr. Stanley
6:00 pm – STA .. Msgr. Sandersfeld
7:00 pm – OLR (*Spanish*) Fr. Valenton
7:00 pm – SAG .. Fr. Stanley
8:00 pm – STA (*Gregorian*) .. TBA

COUPLES BLESSING WEEKEND PRAYER BEADS

Thank you all for your kind words of appreciation for the beautiful Prayer Beads distributed on the weekend of Feb. 13th. The prayer beads were made by the children of the parish participating in all levels of Faith Formation : Pre-K through 5th graders meeting on Sunday mornings, Middle & High Schoolers and Hispanic equivalent all contributed to the process.

We wanted to acknowledge and thank the parish for always keeping us in your prayers and to let you know we are keeping you in ours.

Peace in Christ - Sue Clingsmith, Director of Religious Education

AFTERNOON OF SONG AND FUN

On Sunday afternoon, March 13, 2011, from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. in St. Albert the Great Church, as part of our 50th Anniversary celebration of St. Albert the Great Church, we are planning a parish afternoon of music and fun, at which time talented parish music groups and individuals will perform.

We look forward to an afternoon of group and individual performances, some sing-alongs, and perhaps even some topical, parish humor. Our well-voiced clergy might even be cajoled into an aria (or ditty)! Our organizing committee is reaching out now to our parish talent, and looking forward to March 13. We hope you will join us! If you have questions, please contact Chris Lundin, clundin@stanford.edu

ST. PATRICK'S DAY EVENT: COME FOR THE CRAIG

Only two weeks to go until the annual St. Patrick's Day celebration - Saturday, Mar 19th, from 6:00 - 8:00 (or so) at the St. Elizabeth Seton School auditorium. A full night of hospitality, entertainment, and fine fare await you at inflation-resistant prices. "Dance Around Molly" will ensure an evening of traditional tunes -- just right for the Turco Dancers and the sing-a-long. The corned beef and cabbage will be the best that you will find on the Peninsula. Ticket sales start this weekend! Don't be left out! Always room for more volunteers; just ask Joe Kinsella 650-364-3705. Erin Go Braugh!

SPIRITUALITY TUESDAYS

March 8th Scripture and Faith Sharing with Deacon Daniel Hernandez

"The Sermon on the Mount: the Mysteries of Truth (part 2)". Spend an evening exploring the eight Beatitudes from Matthew 5:3-10. The Lord expands the 10 Commandments in this important sermon. Bibles will be provided. Refreshments, as usual SAG Hospitality Room; 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. in the St. Albert the Great Hospitality Center. Please join us!

THANK YOU FROM THE HEART

"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Matthew. Thanks from the parish Human Concerns Committee, the Opportunity Center and our less fortunate neighbors for opening your hearts and sharing your treasure on "Have a Heart Sunday" Your generous donations of more than 200 items of underwear and \$1463 will help make life a bit more comfortable for those in need.

March 6, 2011

GREEN CORNER

One way to reduce our carbon footprint is to eat less meat all yearlong - not just during Lent.

Production and consumption of meat worldwide has more than tripled since 1961 and could double from now until 2050 as standards of living increase and the population doubles. As a result, vast swaths of forest are being cleared for pastures, robbing the planet of trees, which absorb carbon dioxide. Cattle and sheep also release vast amounts of methane, a potent greenhouse gas. A recent study by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations produced startling findings: The animals' burps, the nitrous oxide gases from their decomposing manure and other factors, including the energy needed to store and transport meat, were responsible for 18 percent of greenhouse gas emissions - more than the entire transportation sector. Source: NY Times

The Green Committee

MARCH IS A FULL MONTH FOR STAY!

STAY Middle School and High school sessions meet every Sunday from 7 until 8:30 pm. The middle school program will focus on Lenten principles and the high school program will be focusing on the values of conscience, virtue, and sin.

The next youth Mass will be on Sunday, March 13 at 6 pm. All parish 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 pm. There will be a welcoming rite for all Confirmation candidates at this mass.

The next Confirmation session will be on Sunday, March 20 at 6 pm with a topic of moral decision making.

A family fun night is scheduled for Friday, March 25 from 6 until 10 pm. We are planning an exciting evening for all families!

CATHOLIC CHARITIES TAXEZ PROGRAM

St. Joseph School, 1120 Miramonte, Mountain View, Saturday mornings through April 16, 9 to noon. Drop-in by 11:30 for this free service if you earned \$49,000 or less in 2010. BRING:

- Photo ID
- All W-2 s and 1099s (if any)
- Bank Account & Routing # if you would like Direct Deposit
- Social Security Card or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) letter for all family members
- Copy of 2009 tax return (if available)