

Fourth Sunday of Lent

TODAY'S MESSAGE

REJOICE! YOUR SALVATION IS NEAR!

Today we celebrate the mid-way point of our Lenten journey— also known as Laetare Sunday. The word Laetare comes from the introductory rite of the Mass: Laetare, Jerusalem, 'Rejoice with Jerusalem' (Isa 66:10). This halfway point and day of reprieve during this penitential season is marked by our presiders rose vestments, instead of the traditional violet. There is a joyful note at this point in Lent because of the ancient practice of 'handing over' the Apostles' Creed to catechumens as they prepare for Baptism at the Easter Vigil. The Apostles' Creed is the epitome of Christian doctrine. The twelve articles of the Creed contain the truths taught by the Apostles. Let us share these articles of faith with our families and friends today as we continue to prepare ourselves for the renewal of our baptismal promises at Easter.

"The Creed is the spiritual seal, our hearts' meditation and an ever-present guardian; it is, unquestionably, the treasure of our soul." – St. Ambrose

Susan Clingingsmith, Director of Religious Education

2011 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

"Our Parish – Our Diocese – Together in Christ" Report #8 — ADA Goal: \$120,000; Pledged: \$120,000 * Pledges: 294 100% of Goal

We did it in just 8 weeks! Thank you for helping St. Thomas Aquinas Parish do our "fair share" in supporting Bishop McGrath and his ministry in the Diocese of San Jose. How did we do it? 127 people made pledges that were equal to their 2010 pledge. An amazing 71 people increased their 2011 pledge! And the best news is 55 people pledged in 2011 who were unable to pledge in 2010. There are still 105 households who pledged over \$30,000 in 2010 who have not yet pledged for 2011. We are now in position to get our rebate (above and beyond ever dollar pledged and paid.) So, if you have been waiting until we reached our goal: We need you! Anything raised above our ADA goal will directly benefit St. Thomas Aquinas Parish and our always plentiful un-budgeted repairs to our buildings and grounds!



Please Pray



FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND — Nicholas Humy, Msgr. William Lenane, Fr. Thierry Geris, Diane Zscheile, Kelly Vitorino, Quirico Japlit, Rev. John Butcher, Juliana Crozier, Mary Lee Hagen, Sr. Jeannette Donnelly, Tom Mulcahy

FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED — Betty Schauer, Edna Kansora, Betty Hofstetter, Patricia Jacobsen, Gerald Kosmala, Sybil Ann Pfluke, Jerry Martin, Ursula Esteotto, Margaret Grace Shea, Peter Koperski, Rita Perko, Hal Partelow, Annie Wen

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, April 3:

10:30 am OLR . . LeRoy Alma Brimhall †
Readings: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38]

Monday, April 4: St. Isidore

8:30 am OLR . . . Irene Butler (special intention)
 12:15 pm STA . . Elsie & Emil Trojak (special intention)
Readings: Is 65:17-21; Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday, April 5: St. Vincent Ferrer

12:15 pm STA . . Eileen Butler †
Readings: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday, April 6:

Readings: Is 49:8-15; Jn 5:17-30

Thursday, April 7: St. John Baptist de la Salle

12:15 pm STA . . Patricia Jacobson †
Readings: Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47

Friday, April 8:

8:30 am OLR . . . Peter Koperski †
Readings: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday, April 9:

12:15 pm STA . .
Readings: Jer 11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53

PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

Saturday & Sunday Apr 9 & 10, 2011

St. Albert the Great
 Sat 5:00 pm Fr. Stanley
 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 Fr. Brown
 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. Valenton

Please note our email address:
bulletin@paloaltocatholic.org

BULLETIN ARTICLE DUE
 Apr 17 . . . **Wed** Apr 6 noon
 Apr 24 . . **Wed** Apr 13 noon



Our Weekly Offering

February 27 \$ 8,430.60
 St. Elizabeth Seton School \$ 3,752.00
thank you for your continued generosity

Year To Date

Actual YTD . . . \$ 341,359.69
 Budget YTD . . \$ 352,599.33
 Variance - 3.19%

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, April 3: Fourth Sunday of Lent
9:15, 10:15 am .. Rel. Ed. (ISP/SESS)
8:30 am Hospitality Sundays
(OLRH)
11:30 am Byzantines (SAGH)
5:00 pm STAYouth Mass, Dinner
(OLR/H)

Monday, April 4:

6:00 pm Hospital Training (OLRH)
7:00 pm Sp. Catechist Mtg. (PC)
7:30 pm RCIA (PC)

Tuesday, April 5:

7:00 pm Spirituality Tuesdays
(SAGH)

Wednesday, April 6:

6:00 pm SOUP (OLRH)

Thursday, April 7:

6:30 pm Taize Prayer (OLR)

Friday, April 8: Abstinence

10:00 am Rel. Ed. Board (PC)
7:00 pm Sp. Young Adults (OLRH)

Saturday, April 9:

8:00 am Environment (OLR)
10:30 am Sp. Confirmation Retreat &
Reconciliation (OLR/H)

LIGHT AND SHADOW

*In faith there is enough light for those who want
to believe and enough shadows to blind those
who don't. — Blaise Pascal*

TAIZE PRAYER

The last Lenten Taize service will be April 7th at 7 pm at Our Lady of the Rosary. Father Randy will lead us in an hour of prayerful reflection; come join us.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Father Randy will lead the "Stations of the Cross" following the usual 8:30 morning Mass at OLR on Friday's during Lent.

SPIRITUALITY TUESDAYS

Tuesday April 5th 7 pm SAG Hospitality Room — "Open Forum" Questions and Answers about Our Faith with Fr. Matt and Fr. Randy

Come, let us ask our clergy and learn more about our faith tradition and Catholic identity. Do you have questions about why Catholics believe certain tenets? Do you have questions about why we perform certain liturgical acts or have certain prayer traditions? Questions about how to handle Church tenets which don't make sense to you? Don't miss it!

STAYOUTH

Hello! Welcome to the April Youth Ministry bulletin update. We hope all parishioners are enjoying their Lent.

Due to Spring break and Easter, regular middle school and high school groups will meet only twice in April—April 3 and 17.

The next youth Mass will be on Sunday, April 3 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.

On April 17, middle school and high school students are invited to attend the STAY session at 7 pm, ending at 8:30 pm. High Schoolers will be making Easter Baskets for the Haven Family House in Menlo Park.

In addition to Easter baskets, additional activities are planned in April, including YCS Family Service day on April 2, Hotel De Zink on April 8, and helping to decorate OLR Church on April 16. Additional information can be found on our website: www.paloaltocatholic.org/stay

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION – NEXT SUNDAY

This collection supports six Catholic agencies benefiting millions of vulnerable, displaced, and impoverished families and individuals around the world. From direct humanitarian service to helping victims of human trafficking and working to reunify families, the funds from the collection make a real difference in lives across the globe.

THE PREMIERE PRO-LIFE FILM FESTIVAL

April 15&16 2011 LA Convention Center; Group Trip to LA for this First of its kind Film Festival Celebrating Life! Bus(es) will leave Santa Clara on Thursday April 14th and come back Sunday April 17th.

Cost Includes Transportation there and back and All- Inclusive Festival Pass*. \$285 per/person. Note: Lodging not included. E-Mail If interested in this exciting once in a lifetime trip. Lifestdiana@Gmail.com www.lifefilmfest.com

WIDOW & WIDOWERS

The Widow and Widowers will be going to the Green Elephant on April 7th for dinner at 5:30 in the Charleston Center. All widow and widowers are welcome.

April 3, 2011

MASS FOR VICTIMS/SURVIVORS OF VIOLENCE

Violence hits all communities, all income and age groups, and it also tests our faith. We have a responsibility to respond. Please help us reach out to those individuals and families who have experienced the pain and hurt of losing a loved one through a violent act. The Catholic community cannot ignore the moral and human costs of so much violence in our midst.

A special Mass will be held on Sunday, April 10, at 2:30 pm at Queen of Apostles Church, 4911 Moorpark, San Jose. Bishop Patrick J. McGrath will be the presider. This is a way for all who have been touched by violence to gather in prayer and remembrance. There will be a reception after Mass.

If you would like a specific victim/survivor of violence to be remembered by name in this liturgy, please send the name to Sister Maryann Cantion, 1150 North 1st St., San Jose, 95110.

Human Concerns Committee

AFTERNOON OF FUN AND SONG

Requiem

*All our homes are gone, our loved ones taken,
taken by the sea.*

*Mother Mary, calm our fears, have mercy,
drowning in a sea of tears, have mercy,
hear our mournful plea.*

*Our world has been shaken,
We wander our homelands forsaken.*

*In the dark night of the soul
bring some comfort to us all,*

*Mother Mary, come and carry us in your embrace
that our sorrows may be faced.*

An audience of over 75 enthusiastic parishioners heard these poignant and apropos words waft through St. Alberts Church from the mouths of the combined adult and children's choirs. The event was an "Afternoon of Song and Fun," part of St. Alberts ongoing 50th year celebration. Attendees were treated to the piano artistry of Karen, Magdalene and Noel Peng and David Loftus, as well as to vocal music sung by Katie Yankoski and Tim Donovan of the STAY program, Father Randy Valenton, the children's choir and the adult choir, as well as group sing-a-longs. Our gratitude goes out to Chris Lundin, general organizer and adult choir director, and Karen Peng, children's choir director.

A HUGE thank you to all who attended and to those who performed.