

# Third Sunday of Lent

## TODAY'S MESSAGE

During our annual STAKids Family Lenten gathering, we explored the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. The children's creativity in exploring ways to live out these Works were wonderful. Because of the age levels, most revolved around the Corporal Works. The Catechism of the Catholic Church reminds us that "prayer and the Christian life are inseparable" (CCC 2745). When we purposely incorporate prayer into our actions, we invite the Holy Spirit to be our guide so that all we accomplish is done for God. Here are three ways to incorporate prayer into family life.

Traditional Prayers are official prayers that have been handed down throughout history; prayers like the Our Father, the Hail Mary, the Act of Contrition, and other memorized prayers. Helping children to understand and learn these prayers continues our rich Catholic tradition.

Spontaneous Prayers allow us to use our own words to express our thoughts. Invite family members to speak to God from their hearts. What are they grateful for? Who is in need of prayers? And remember, my favorite—a SMILE!

Ritual Prayer can involve words, movement, symbols, gestures, and objects. What a powerful way to engage a person fully in prayer. Sprinkle each other with holy water while making the Sign of the Cross and talk about Baptism. Invite children to venerate the cross by bowing before it or touching it reverently with their hand. Sign each others' palms with oil to remind one another that as Christians we are called to serve others.

This Lenten season, choose a Work of Mercy to practice as a family and strengthen your family prayer life. Take this time to explore new opportunities for lifting your minds and hearts to God.

*Susan Clingingsmith – Directory of Religious Education*

## WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REPORT

We encourage every family and household to practice good stewardship. Remember sacrificial giving is planned, thoughtful, and proportional and it symbolizes your commitment to Christ and the Church. We encourage you



*Our Weekly Offering*

Mar 4th Actual \$11,000 Goal \$11,000

to consider using the Sunday Offertory Envelopes or Parish Pay as a way of giving to the Lord the "first fruits" of the "treasure" you have received.

### Please Pray

**FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** — Fr. Thierry Geris, Sr. Jeannette Donnelly, Norman Swope, Mary Fong, Devin Wakefield, Robert Kerrigan Sr., Frank Briggs Sr., Kathleen Briggs Kerrigan, Fr. Tony Medina, Arminda Schembri, Linda Staelgraefe, Erika Staelgraefe, William McNerny, Cecilio V. Suarez Jr., Theresa Diulus, Joan Sterling

**FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED** — Maria Marszal, Fr. Raymond Maher, Vera Leung, Lawrence Barrett Jr., Clothilda Rita Wait, Verna Ogren, Irene Butler, Frank Ventura, Maryhelen Macpherson, Dominador Navarro, Robert Purcell, Judith Ann Canales, Msgr. William Lenane

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, March 11:  
 8:45 am STA... Vince Giovannotto †  
 9:00 am SAG... Dayo Fashoro (sp. int.)  
 10:30 am STA... Clothilda Rita Wait †  
 6:00 pm OLR... Lavern Mugan †  
*Readings: Ex 20:1-17 [1-3, 7-8, 12-17]; Ps 19;  
 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25*

Monday, March 12:  
 7:15 am STA... Robert Purcell †  
 8:30 am OLR... Clare Thomas & children (sp. int.)  
 12:15 pm STA... Dayo Fashoro (sp. int.)  
*Readings: 2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Lk 4:24-30*

Tuesday, March 13:  
 7:15 am STA... Dayo Fashoro (sp. int.)  
 8:30 am OLR... Michael & Gearailt Cummins  
 12:15 pm STA... Patricia Hart †  
*Readings: Dn 3:25, 34-43; Mt 18:21-35*

Wednesday, March 14:  
 7:15 am STA... Dayo Fashoro (sp. int.)  
 8:30 am OLR... Edilberta Escobar (health)  
*Readings: Dt 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19*

Thursday, March 15:  
 8:30 am OLR... Dayo Fashoro (sp. int.)  
 12:15 pm STA... John Show †, Tony deSugny †  
*Readings: Jer 7:23-28; Lk 11:14-23*

Friday, March 16:  
 7:15 am STA... Dayo Fashoro (sp. int.)  
 8:30 am OLR... Sharon Head (health)  
 12:15 pm STA... James Roddy †  
*Readings: Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34*

Saturday, March 17: Saint Patrick  
 12:15 pm STA... Dayo Fashoro (sp. int.)  
 5:00 pm SAG... Tony & Rita Palomo (sp. int.)  
*Readings: Hos 6:1-6; Lk 18:9-14*

## PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

Saturday & Sunday Mar 17 & 18, 2012

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

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

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

# St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

## THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, March 11: Third Sunday of Lent; First Scrutiny; Daylight Saving Time begins; Girl Scout Sunday  
9:15, 10:15 am STA Kids (ISP/SESS)  
10:00 am . . . . SAG Site Meeting (SAGH)  
11:30 am . . . . Fr. Matt's birthday (OLRH)  
11:30 am . . . . Byzantine Liturgy (SAGH)  
3:30 pm . . . . STAYouth (DC)  
5:00 pm . . . . STAYouth (OLRH)

Monday, March 12:

7:00 pm . . . . Catechesis Meeting (PC)  
7:00 pm . . . . PIA (PC)  
7:00 pm . . . . TMC (TH)  
7:30 pm . . . . RCIA (PC)

Tuesday, March 13:

6:00 pm . . . . Hisp. Baptismal Class (PC)  
7:00 pm . . . . Knights of Columbus (OLRH)  
7:00 pm . . . . Spirituality Tuesday (SAGH)

Wednesday, March 14:

9:15 am . . . . Fr. Allen Church History (OLRH)  
6:00 pm . . . . RCIC (DC)  
7:00 pm . . . . SOUP (OLRH)

Thursday, March 15:

10:00 am . . . . Faith Sharing (SAGH)  
12:00 pm . . . . Ignatian Spirituality (STAH)  
5:30 pm . . . . STAYouth (DC)  
7:00 pm . . . . Centering Prayer (OLR)  
7:00 pm . . . . Comm. Board (PC)  
7:00 pm . . . . Hisp. 1st Comm. (PC)  
7:00 pm . . . . Taize Prayer (OLR)

Friday, March 16: Abstinence

6:00 pm . . . . Friday Night Lights (DC)  
7:00 pm . . . . Sp. Young Adults (OLRH)

Saturday, March 17:

all day . . . . St. Patrick's Event (SESS)  
8:00 am . . . . Environment Team (OLR)  
1:00 pm . . . . PIA (OLRH)

## WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS

Leah & Patrick Enriquez,  
Scott Eaton, Julie Armitan,  
Jessica Pierog, Mari Gutierrez

## 2012 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

"Our Parish – Our Diocese – Together in Christ" ADA Goal: \$120,000  
Pledged: \$100,000 • Pledges: 217 • Average Pledge: \$459 • % of Goal: 83%

We are making slow and steady progress toward our goal! My gratitude for the 217 families who had made pledges and gifts toward this year's Appeal. So far 112 people have made pledges that were equal to their 2011 pledge. An amazing 54 people increased their 2011 pledge, while 28 pledges were less than 2011. 23 new households have pledged in 2012 that were unable to pledge in 2011. We really would like to hear from the 145 families who pledged in 2011 and have yet to make their gift for 2012. We also need to increase our number of NEW PLEDGES. There are only 3 weeks remaining in this year's campaign. With everyone's participation, we can meet and surpass our ADA goal; however, this will only be possible if every parish household participates according to their means. Remember, payments can be made over the next 10 months. Use your Visa or MasterCard, make an Electronic Funds Transfer from your checking account, or donate online at dsj.org. Anything raised above our ADA goal will directly benefit St. Thomas Aquinas!

## SCRUTINIES WITH THE ELECT

On the Third, Fourth and Fifth Sundays of Lent on at both the 5pm Mass at St. Albert the Great and the 10:30am at Our Lady of the Rosary, we will celebrate the rites of penance and purification with our Elect who are preparing to receive the sacraments of initiation at the Easter Vigil. The purpose of these rites is to uncover all that would lead them away from Christ, so that they might be able to come to a full Christian life. The support of a parish community is vital to this process. At the same time, these brief rites call us, the baptized, to uproot the sin in our lives so as to be more faithful to our own baptism. We will be using the Cycle A Readings at these Masses.

## SPIRITUALITY TUESDAY ASSEMBLY

March 13th Mormonism: Who are the Latter Day Saints? Guest speaker: Father Jose Rubio —The Mormon faith has come into the spotlight as the Republican Presidential campaign moves forward. People often ask: What do Mormons believe? Are Mormons "Christians"? Are Mormon baptisms valid? What are the answers to these and other questions about Mormonism? Fr. Rubio is well known in the Diocese for his work toward interfaith harmony. A knowledgeable speaker, he will share his experiences and insights with us. Don't miss this educational opportunity!

## HOTEL DE ZINK

Our parish will be taking food to the homeless folks staying at the Church of Christ during April. We will be taking the food during the first two weeks. I will be signing people up to bring food after the Masses during the month of March. If I miss you after Mass and you want to bring food, please call Ruth Chippendale 856 6350. Thanks for your help!

## IMMIGRATION POLICY DISCUSSION AT OLR HALL MARCH 17

Organize to Change Immigration Policy! Join us to discuss next steps after the big immigration action on Jan. 28th in San Francisco. Get training to make concrete, local changes. Saturday, March 17 at 1:00-3:30pm at Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church, 3233 Cowper Street, Palo Alto. Hosted by Peninsula Interfaith Action, to RSVP call 650-592-9181 or George Chippendale 650 856 6350

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# March 11, 2012

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## TALK BY CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Steve Hicken, the new director of the Economic Development Division of Catholic Charities, will be speaking about the work of their division - which includes refugees, taxes, financial education, access to "food stamps", Donation Station, and Immigration Legal services. The talk is scheduled for Wednesday, Mar 14, from 7 to 8 pm., at St. William Catholic Church, located at 611 S. El Monte Ave (neav El Monte and Foothill Expressway).

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The call to conversion and reconciliation is central to Lent. It is the Church's desire that all Catholics celebrate this sacrament prior to our entry into the Easter Triduum on Holy Thursday. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated every Saturday from 11:30 AM – 12:00 PM at St. Thomas Aquinas Church & 4:15 PM – 4:45 PM at St. Albert the Great. We will have two Lenten Penance Liturgies on Monday, March 19 at 7:00 PM at St. Albert the Great & Monday, March 26 at 7:00 PM at Our Lady of the Rosary Church.

## LENTEN RETREAT MARCH 24

The Merton Center Spiritual Education Committee invites you to attend a Lenten retreat, Saturday, March 24, 9 am—12:00 noon, in the Thomas House, 745 Waverley Street, Palo Alto (next door to St. Thomas Aquinas Church). The retreat leader is Clare Ronzani, and the theme is: Meditations with Thomas Merton: A Time of Lenten Renewal.

"We must remember the original meaning of Lent, as the ver sacrum, the Church's "holy spring." (Thomas Merton, Seasons of Celebration). Thomas Merton reminds us that Lent is a time to enter into the Church's "holy spring." In this morning of Lenten reflection, we will draw from the springs of Merton's wisdom to deepen our experience of this season.

Space in the Thomas House is limited, so if you even think you might attend, please R.S.V.P. to Pat McCarthy at (650) 858-0597, pmmccar1@comcast.net. Donations gratefully accepted.

## LAST WEEKEND FOR TICKET PURCHASES

Our annual celebration of the Irish traditions of the parish is only 1 week away -- Saturday, March 17. Remaining tickets will be on sale after all Masses and during the week at the Pastoral Center. This is the Genuine Article: an evening of hospitality and fond memories in the making -- especially for seniors and families with young children. Irish food, culture, and fun are highlighted in this annual sell-out program. Come for the music and the tasty meal and genuine soda bread. The event is priced for your participation, so be there! Always room for volunteers to help: Joe Kinsella - 364-3705.