

Fourth Sunday of Easter

TODAY'S MESSAGE

PRAY FOR MORE PRIESTS AND NUNS!

This Sunday is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations—a day when the Catholic Church implores her members pray for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life. As Catholics, we should encourage people to become priests and nuns. Parents especially should encourage their children to consider the religious life as a viable and rewarding vocation.

As our Holy Father wrote: "It is my hope that the local Churches will become places where vocations are carefully discerned and their authenticity tested, places where young men and women are offered wise and strong spiritual direction. Families are not only the privileged place for human and Christian formation; they can also be 'the primary and most excellent seed-bed of vocations to a life of consecration to the Kingdom of God', by helping their members to see, precisely within the family, the beauty and the importance of the priesthood and the consecrated life."

If there is anyone you know who you think would make an excellent priest or nun, make a point of telling that to him or her. If you think you could be a priest or nun, please consider it seriously. Saint Thomas Aquinas teaches us that it is never wrong for someone to consider entering the religious state; there are no circumstances which can possibly make such a consideration anything other than a worthwhile endeavor. Our Church needs holy priests and nuns, and so let us both pray and work for more religious vocations.

Michael Gray – Pastoral Year Seminarian

MAY 1ST "MEXICAN FIESTA" POT-LUCK!

This is the final Spirituality Tuesday Assembly of our series. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy an evening of food and fun! We will talk about our favorite speakers and topics from this past season. Plus, planning for next fall is already in progress. Please bring any ideas you may have for a topic or a speaker. Chips, salsa and beverages will be provided, plus traditional libations. Do not miss this fun event! St. Albert the Great Hospitality Center at 6:30pm on May 1st.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REPORT

We are so grateful for the sacrifices you make so that the work of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish may continue to impact the lives of so many. We encourage everyone to



Our Weekly Offering

Apr 22 Actual \$9,800 • Goal \$11,000

consider using the Sunday Offertory Envelopes or Online Giving as a way of giving to the Lord the "first fruits" of the "treasure" you have received. THANK YOU FOR SHARING GOD'S GIFTS!

Please Pray

FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND — Sr. Jeannette Donnelly, Norman Swope, Devin Wakefield, Robert Kerrigan Sr., Kathleen Briggs Kerrigan, Fr. Tony Medina, Linda Staelgraeve, Erika Staelgraeve, William McNerny, Cecilio V. Suarez Jr., Theresa Diulus, Joan Sterling, Kimberly Bishop, Mary Lee Hagen, Hong Lee

FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED — Frank Ventura, Maryhelen Macpherson, Dominador Navarro, Robert Purcell, Judith Ann Canales, Msgr. William Lenane, Arminda Schembri, Frank Briggs Sr.

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 29:

10:30 am OLR . . Dulce Aranha †

10:30 am STA . . Clothilda Rita Wait †

6:00 pm OLR . . . Helen Gryzbowski †

Readings: Acts 4:8-12; Ps 118; 1 Jn 3:1-2; Jn 10:11-18

Monday, April 30: St. Pius V

8:30 am OLR . . . Rosa Colozzo †

Readings: Acts 11:1-18; Jn 10:1-10

Tuesday, May 1: St. Joseph the Worker

8:30 am OLR . . . Frank M. Briggs †

12:15 pm STA . . Lee Family (sp. int.)

Readings: Acts 11:19-26; Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday, May 2: St. Athanasius

8:30 am OLR . . . Norman Kocikowski †

12:15 pm STA . . Dulce Aranha †

Readings: Acts 12:24 — 13:5a; Jn 12:44-50

Thursday, May 3: Ss. Philip and James

Readings: 1 Cor 15:1-8; Jn 14:6-14

Friday, May 4:

Readings: Acts 13:26-33; Jn 14:1-6

Saturday, May 5:

5:00 pm SAG . . . Michael & Gearailt

Cummins (sp. int.)

Readings: Acts 13:44-52; Jn 14:7-14

PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

Saturday & Sunday May 5 & 6, 2012

St. Albert the Great

Sat 5:00 pm Fr. Valenton

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. Valenton

Sun 10:30 am Fr. Stanley

Sun 6:00 pm Youth Fr. Seimas

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, April 29: Fourth Sunday of Easter;
World Day of Prayer for Vocations
9:00, 10:30 am STAKids (OLRH/SESS)
10:30 am 1st Communion Reception
(SAGH)
3:30 pm STAYouth (DC/OLRH)

Monday, April 30:
6:30 pm RCIA (PC)

Tuesday, May 1:
6:30 pm Spirituality Tuesday Potluck
(SAGH)

Wednesday, May 2:
10:00 am Adult Spirituality Board (PC)
6:00 pm RCIC (PC)
6:00 pm SOUP (OLRH)

Thursday, May 3: National Day of Prayer
10:00 am Faith Sharing (SAGH)
5:30 pm STAYouth (DC)
7:00 pm Centering Prayer (DC)
7:00 pm Hisp. First Communion
Catechesis (PC)

Friday, May 4: First Friday
7:00 pm Hisp. Young Adult (OLRH)

Saturday, May 5: First Saturday;
Cinco de Mayo
8:30 am Hisp. 1st Comm. Retreat (OLR)

MASS UPDATE

The 12:15pm Mass (11:30am Confessions) has been cancelled for May 5th due our priests working at our Youth Confirmation Retreat.

THE DEADLINE HAS PASSED!

If you haven't turned in your calendar/facility request forms for 2012/2013, please get them into the Pastoral Center this week.

LAYETTE DRIVE APRIL 28 – MAY 31

The St. Thomas Aquinas Confirmation class is conducting a Layette Drive for the Parish's Layette Ministry. The Layette Ministry is a long running program based out of Our Lady of the Rosary Church. The ministry reaches out to new mothers in need of assistance by giving them a gift package containing essentials for their newborn baby. To donate to the Layette Ministry, look for the cribs in the foyer at Our Lady of the Rosary and St. Albert the Great and the basket at St. Thomas Aquinas. Please contact the Pastoral Center for more information about the drive.

"THEN SINGS MY SOUL" BENEFIT CONCERT

Hear jazz great Joyce Randolph, accompanied by pianist Professor Bill Bell, in their first-ever performance of all spiritual music: April 29, 2012, 4-6 p.m., St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 751 Waverley Street, Palo Alto. Proceeds benefit the work of the Thomas Merton Center, in particular its support for St. Elizabeth Seton School. One performance only. Ticket price \$40; discount to Merton Center members. Tickets available through Brown Paper Tickets: www.brownpapertickets.com/event/233953, or call 1-800-838-3006. For more information on Joyce Randolph, go to www.joycerandolph.com. Contact Jim Davis, 650-328-2584, or jim_davis@pacbell.net.

INSTITUTE FOR LEADERSHIP IN MINISTRY

The Institute for Leadership in Ministry is a 3 year course of study for lay persons. The ILM provides training and faith formation for lay leaders in the Church. The theological base for this program is found in the documents of the Second Vatican Council. Responding to their baptismal call, graduates return to their parish to serve in various leadership roles in Liturgy, Catechetics, Social Justice, Pastoral Care, as well as many others. We plan to continue sending lay persons to the Institute for Leadership in Ministry. If you feel called to explore this possibility, we are looking for a few qualified candidates for the new ILM academic year which begins in the fall. Please contact Fr. Matt (mstanley@dsj.org) for more information.

AN INVITATION TO HONOR OUR MEN & WOMEN RELIGIOUS

Bishop McGrath invites you to join in a special Mass celebrating Religious Consecrated Life at Bellarmine College Preparatory (San Jose) on Saturday, May 12, at 3:30pm; there will be a special recognition given to Jubilarians, the women and men who have served and some who are still serving in many parishes in the Diocese. A reception will follow. Please R.S.V.P. to Sandra at the Pastoral Center by Friday, May 4.

CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS 2ND COLLECTION THIS SUNDAY

This month, the bishops are inviting Catholics across the nation to contribute to the Catholic Home Missions Appeal. Since 1998, this national collection has been a powerful and successful expression of stewardship and our Catholic communion. This Appeal offers Catholics a wonderful opportunity to help fellow Catholics practice their faith in such rugged mission areas as Alaska, Appalachia, the Deep South, the Rocky Mountain states, the dusty Southwest, Puerto Rico, and island dioceses in the Pacific and Caribbean. The Catholic Home Missions Appeal is a practical way for Catholics to support the Mission Church here at home. Over 95 cents of every dollar donated to the Appeal goes directly to the missions!

April 29, 2012

ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT

How many Earths do we need? Find out in the website www.myfootprint.org which has 27 questions to determine how one's practices impact the Earth. At the end of the quiz you will know how many Earths we would need if everyone on the planet lived the same lifestyle. It also includes actions to reduce our carbon footprint. Source: www.myfootprint.org
The Green Committee

WORLD YOUTH DAY

WORLD YOUTH DAY RIO de JANEIRO 2013 Kick Off Meeting
Teens and Parents attend either the Thursday, April 26 at 7:00pm at St. Simon or Sunday, April 29 at 11:30 at Our Lady of the Rosary in Palo Alto. We will go over fund raising, cost and full itinerary. This will be our 5th WYD - Teens 16yrs. old by July 16, 2013 thru young adults are welcome. We look forward to seeing you all at the kick off meetings email Alley with questions: awhite@dsj.org

STAYOUTH ASSISTANT YOUTH MINISTER NEEDED

St. Thomas Aquinas' Youth (STAY) Ministry is committed to love, nurture, inspire, and motivate all middle and high school youth to be faithful, lifelong disciples of Jesus Christ who serve their community. STAY offers weekly youth group sessions of faith-sharing with peers, youth masses, social events, social justice and outreach projects, and leadership opportunities.

The Assistant Youth Minister articulates and executes the vision of the STAY program to youth in grades 6 – 12th. The position details can be found on the parish website under EDGE ministry. If you or someone you know may be interested in this position please email your resume to Alley White at awhite@dsj.org

HUMAN CONCERNS NEEDS YOU

The parish Human Concerns Committee is in need of new blood. The main work of this group is social justice. We are the ones who look out for the less fortunate souls among us. Here are some projects that we have worked on: abolition of the death penalty, refugee resettlement, Have a Heart Sunday, Hotel De Zink (providing food for the homeless on a rotating basis with other churches in the area), immigration reform, clothes collections, and Bread for the World letter writing campaigns. Some projects that we hope to get involved in very soon: torture awareness events, and human trafficking awareness events. You can read more about our activities on our web site: go to the parish web site (www.paloaltocatholic.net); you will find us under "Ministries and Organizations." If you are interested in joining us, call Paul Chestnut (650-493-8237) or Laura Chiu (650-283-6343).