

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

TODAY'S MESSAGE

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Dat Luong. I was ordained as a transitional deacon on September 29th, and I will be serving the parish community of St. Thomas Aquinas for the next several months. I am in my last year of priestly formation at Saint Patrick Seminary, and God-willing, I will be ordained a priest for San Jose Diocese in June.

The priestly vocation came to me when I least expected it. To be honest, it was more than 10 years ago; even in my wildest dreams, I never imagined seeing myself as a priest. However, God had his way. He put certain people and events in my path, which pointed out to me my vocation to the priesthood. If I have to attribute the awakening of my vocation to one person, then I have to give it to a Vietnamese sister. She was the one who led me to become a more devout Catholic. Her life of selfless-giving is truly a witness to the Gospel. Spending time with her gradually helped me to realize that the best way I could make my life most meaningful was to serve God as a priest.

It has been a long, interesting, and challenging journey; however, the most important thing that I realized was that through all the tough times and good times, God never failed to be there for me. I felt his 'presence' and 'support' even during the toughest times of my formation. This is the strength that helps me to continue. I have never regretted my decision. So please pray for me so that I can become a real servant for Christ and others. I look forward to meeting many of you in the weeks to come.

Rev. Mr. Dat Luong, Transitional Deacon

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Since our parish fiscal year began July 1, we have 51 parish households using Online Giving as their regular stewardship towards the parish. And so far those contributions have totaled \$12,160 for the first quarter, \$38,000 year to date. With Online Giving you can automate your weekly donation. You can sign-up online by visiting our parish website at www.paloaltocatholic.org and click the Online Giving icon on the homepage. Your Sunday Offertory donations, as well as gifts to our Second Collections, will be automatically transferred from either your checking or savings account. Or use your credit card! A one-time enrollment will allow you to regularly contribute to St. Thomas Aquinas without remembering the extra step of writing a check and finding your envelopes.

Online Giving is safe, easy and convenient for you and it helps us! Questions, call Cathy Miller (650) 494-2496 ext. 24 (Disclosure: the eBulletin editor's household has not missed a single collection since signing up for Online Giving. Join us!)



Our Weekly Offering

Sept 30 Actual \$8,500 • Goal \$11,000
St. Vincent de Paul \$4,500



Pledwase Pray

FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND — Norman Swope, Devin Wakefield, Robert Kerrigan Sr., Kathleen Briggs Kerrigan, William McNerny, Theresa Diulus, Fr. Thierry Geris, Douglas Hein, Consuelo Hernandez, Emma Napolis, Kathy Gibbs, George Kimm, John Braun, Virginia Marovich, Bill Todd

FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED — Rachel Salcedo, William J. Wall, Emil Trojak, Rose DeVasto, William Chamberlain, Jean Koo, Natividad Aguila, Joan Sterling, Mary Stivala Peterson, Lorraine Schemel, Talia Rodriguez, Dionira Quinta, Betty Stivala, Elizabeth Hiegel, George Locke, Barbara Jorpin, Frances Galea

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, October 7:

10:30 am OLR . . . Betty Hiegel †

10:30 am STA. . . Clothilda Rita Wait †

Readings: Gn 2:18-24; Ps 128; Heb 2:9-11;

Mk 10:2-16 [2-12]

Monday, October 8:

8:30 am OLR . . . Antoine & Odette

Aclimandos †

Readings: Gal 1:6-12; Lk 10:25-37

Tuesday, October 9: St. Denis and

Companions; St. John Leonardi

8:30 am OLR . . . Gearailt Cummins (sp. int.)

Readings: Gal 1:13-24; Lk 10:38-42

Wednesday, October 10:

7:15 am STA. . . . Catherine McKosker †

8:30 am OLR . . . Dolores Palomo (sp. int.)

12:15 pm STA . . Dr. Bruno Martins †

Readings: Gal 2:1-2, 7-14; Lk 11:1-4

Thursday, October 11:

7:15 am STA. . . . James & Edith Dubbs †

8:30 am OLR . . . Marianne Kelly (sp. int.)

Readings: Gal 3:1-5; Lk 11:5-13

Friday, October 12:

7:15 am STA. . . . Msgr. William Lenane †

8:30 am OLR . . . Bill & Betty Hiegel †

12:15 pm STA . . Marianne Kelly (sp. int.)

Readings: Gal 3:7-14; Lk 11:15-26

Saturday, October 13:

Readings: Gal 3:22-29; Lk 11:27-28

PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

Saturday & Sunday October 13 & 14, 2012

St. Albert the Great

Sat 5:00 pm Fr. Valenton

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 Bishop Patrick
McGrath

Sun 10:30 am Fr. Stanley

Sun 12 noon TBD

Our Lady of the Rosary

Sun 9:00 am Fr. Gammad

Sun 10:30 am Fr. Poncini

Sun 6:00 pm Youth Fr. Seimas

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, October 7: Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time; Respect Life Sunday
10:30 am Hispanic Catechesis (DC)
1:00 pm Blessing of Animals (OLR)
4:00 pm STAYouth, STAY Cooled (DC)
4:30 pm Edge (DC)
7:00 pm Life Teen (DC)

Monday, October 8: Columbus Day; National Children's Day; Canadian Thanksgiving Day;
Pastoral Center Closed

7:00 pm Hispanic Catechists (PC)
7:00 pm RCIA (PC)
7:00 pm TMC Liturgy Team (TH)

Tuesday, October 9:

6:00 pm Hispanic Baptism Class (PC)
7:00 pm Knights of Columbus (SAGH)
7:00 pm Spirituality Tuesdays (SAGH)

Wednesday, October 10:

9:15 am Fr. Allen's Church History (OLRH)
6:00 pm RCIA for Children (DC)
6:30 pm PSC (SAGH)

Thursday, October 11:

7:00 pm Centering Prayer (DC)
7:00 pm STA Site Committee (PC)
7:00 pm TMC (STAH)

Friday, October 12:

5:00 pm Goretti Group (STA)
6:00 pm Friday Night Lights (DC)
7:00 pm Adoration (OLR)
7:30 pm Hispanic Young Adult (OLRH)

Saturday, October 13: Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 am Environment Team (OLR)
8:30 am Liturgy Board (SAG Rec)

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

The annual Blessing of the Animals will take place this Sunday, October 7 at 1 p.m. at Our Lady of the Rosary. All are invited to bring your furry, feathered, and scaly creatures for this blessing. All pets are welcome, with owner in tow, of course.

ANNUAL CLERGY RETREAT

Fr. Matt and many of the priests of our Diocese will be on retreat this week at El Retiro in Los Altos. Our retreat master will be Bishop Thomas Daly. Please keep us in your prayers as we renew and strengthen our priestly vocation.

SPIRITUALITY TUESDAY: OCTOBER 9

OCTOBER 9th: You Make the Choice; the pros and cons of the November ballot propositions hosted by The League of Women Voters. The Human Concerns Committee has arranged this opportunity for our Parish. The various propositions often seem confusing. Don't miss this chance to find out what they really mean. Hear both sides of the questions and ask your own. Gather from 7:00 pm until 8:30 at Saint Albert the Great Hospitality Room; refreshments will be served.

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

Pope St. Pius V established this feast in 1573. The purpose was to thank God for the victory of Christians over the Turks at Lepanto—a victory attributed to the praying of the rosary. Clement XI extended the feast to the universal Church in 1716. It was 58 years ago when the cornerstone of the church of Our Lady of the Rosary was laid. Happy Feast Day!

WELCOME BISHOP MCGRATH

Sunday, October 14: Bishop McGrath will be celebrating the Eucharist with the Thomas Merton Center for Catholic Spiritual Development at the 8:45 Mass at St. Thomas Aquinas Church. This coincides with the 50th anniversary of the start of the Second Vatican Council. All are welcome.

RCIA FOR CHILDREN

Parents seeking Baptism for their children aged 7 and older: It's not too late to start the process. Sessions have begun, but we welcome any and all who wish to prepare to receive these sacraments. We meet Wednesdays 6 to 7 p.m. in Dermody Center. If you have questions about this process, please contact Susan at the Pastoral Center.

FORMATION SESSIONS

All Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are invited to attend one of our ongoing formation sessions on either Saturday, Oct 20th from 10am-12pm at St. Albert the Great Hospitality Center or on Saturday, Oct 27th from 10am-12pm at Our Lady of the Rosary Hall. As part of your commitment to serve, you agreed to attend ongoing formation in your ministry and we hope you can attend one of our sessions.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR CATHOLIC VOTERS

This is the fourth in a series of reflections related to the upcoming election. We honor marriage and family life – New human life is created as the fruit of the love between one man and one woman who by their own free will are joined by marriage in a faithful and life-long relationship. This is the ideal for marriage that we learn from nature and from God. We strive to promote and defend this ideal because it is the best way to conceive new life, to nurture a child with the unique love of both a father and a mother, and to teach a child how to live in society.

OCTOBER MASS COUNT

Every October, the Diocese of San Jose asks that each Parish make an accounting of the number of people who attend Sunday Eucharist. If you notice someone walking up and down the aisle during Mass with a pencil and paper in hand—that's what they're doing! We are grateful for their assistance.

October 7, 2012

BIKE PALO ALTO!

Sunday, October 7 at 1:00 to 4:00 PM — Discover local routes. Start at El Carmelo Elementary located at 3024 Bryant Street. Free event. Routes for all levels, information on safe biking, bicycle maintenance, bike maps, free snacks and raffle, family friendly. Sponsored by Palo Alto Neighborhoods Green Teams along with city and business partners. *The Green Committee*

THANK YOU

Many thanks to all who contributed in any way toward the Human Concerns Committee's shoe collection on behalf of Soles4Souls. A total of 597 pairs was collected and those shoes will soon be on their way to people in need around the globe. Check out their website for many details about their efforts to help others.

PASTORAL HOME MINISTRY

Pastoral Home Ministry offers spiritual and social support for the sick and homebound parishioners of all ages. Among the services we provide are:

- Bring communion to individuals
- Provide communion services to groups at retirement and nursing homes.
- Help arrange transportation to Mass.
- Read or write letters and do other small errands.
- Maintain Prayer Circle pray for lists
- Help arrange priest visits

We have information on Avenidas, the Senior Center with its many programs, courses and services; the Palo Alto Center for the Blind; Outreach transportation services and Kara Grief Counseling services.

If you know of anyone who is elderly or has to be homebound for any reason contact the Pastoral Home Ministry at the Pastoral Center and leave a message. We will respond as quickly as possible. Contact Pat Dietrich or Mary Fong at (650) 494-2496 X22.

ANNUAL CARITAS CELEBRATION

The word Caritas is Latin and translates as "Love" or "Charity". On October 18th Caritas Society members from throughout the diocese will gather with Bishop McGrath and Bishop Daly, Catholic Charities staff, and clients at Saint Christopher Parish to recognize individuals who have, by example and deed, served persons in need consistent with Catholic Social Teaching.

If you are interested in learning more about the Caritas Society or to purchase tickets please contact Marnie Regen at Catholic Charities: (408) 325-5248 or mregen@CatholicCharitiesSCC.org.