

The Epiphany of the Lord

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

EPIPHANY PROCLAMATION

My sisters and brothers, the glory of the Lord Jesus has been made manifest and will continue to be revealed in our midst until he comes again. In the rhythms and alternations of time, let us recall and live the mysteries of our salvation.

Central to the entire liturgical year is our celebration of the TRIDUUM OF THE LORD, crucified, buried and risen, which culminates on EASTER SUNDAY, the 31st of March. Every SUNDAY, when we recall this paschal mystery, holy Church makes present this great event in which Christ has conquered sin and death.

From Easter derive all our other celebrations: ASH WEDNESDAY, the beginning of the season of Lent, the 13th of February; the ASCENSION OF THE LORD, the 12th of May, PENTECOST, the 19th of May; and the FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, the 1st of December.

Likewise, in the feasts of the holy Mother of God, of the apostles and saints, and in the commemoration of all the faithful departed, the Church, in her pilgrimage here on earth, proclaims the paschal mystery of the Lord.

To Christ who is, who was, and who is to come, the Lord of all time and history: be endless praise now and forever! *Amen*

COMMISSIONING OF LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Next weekend we commission for another year those who seek to serve the community - to be present to the community in a special way - as liturgical ministers: Ministers of Hospitality, Lectors, Ministers of Music, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Ministers of Environment & Art and of Altar & Linen Care. Let us both recognize the special role these people play in contributing to our experience of worship in St. Thomas Aquinas Parish and, if we are not among them, assess our own call to serve the community in some way.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REPORT


Thank you for your generosity in this year's Christmas collection. Although we are not yet able to give you a complete report of the size of your gift given in that collection, we assure you that the love which these gifts represent will enable us to

 *Our Weekly Offering*

Dec 23, 30 Actual: TBA * Goal: \$11,000
Christmas: TBA


continue the work which we must undertake here at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish. If you were not prepared for our Christmas collection, we encourage you still to make your gift. Your generosity will help us more than you can imagine.

Please Pray

 **FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** — Norman Swope, Devin Wakefield, Robert Kerrigan Sr., William McNerny, Theresa Diulus, Fr. Thierry Geris, Douglas Flein, Consuelo Hernandez, Kathy Gibbs, George Kimm, John Braun, Bill Jodd, Lester Connelly, Lil Nguyen, Tom Kocal, Rochelle Ford, Gary Goodahl, Carl Bunje, Renee Thompson, Joan Campbell

FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED — Betty Stivala, Elizabeth Hiegel, George Locke, Barbara Torpin, Frances Galea, Virginia Marovich, Jerry McGovern, Gary Fazzino, Francis Tucker O'Brien, Marguerite Purcell, Kathleen Briggs Kerrigan, Maria Elida Fernandez

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, January 6:

8:45 am STA... Frances Galea †

Readings: *Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12*

Monday, January 7: St. Raymond of Penyafort

8:30 am OLR ... Elizabeth Leon Guerrero (health)

12:15 pm STA .. Francois & Maria Cecilia Torregrosa †

Readings: *1 Jn 3:22 — 4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25*

Tuesday, January 8:

8:30 am OLR ... Rachel Martinez (health)

Readings: *1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44*

Wednesday, January 9:

8:30 am OLR ... Mary Fitzgerald (sp. int.)

12:15 pm STA .. Thomas & Sons (sp. int.)

Readings: *1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72: 1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52*

Thursday, January 10:

12:15 pm STA .. Dr. Bruno Martins †

Readings: *1 Jn 4:19 — 5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22a*

Friday, January 11:

8:30 am OLR ... William Lucas †

Readings: *1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16*

Saturday, January 12:

Readings: *1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30*

PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

Saturday & Sunday January 12 & 13, 2013

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 Fr. Marini

Sun 10:30 am Fr. Seimas

Sun 12 noon TBD

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, January 6: The Epiphany of the Lord;
National Migration Week

10:00 am Hispanic Catechesis (DC)
4:30 pm Edge (DC)
7:00 pm Lifeteen (DC)

Monday, January 7: Julian Calendar
Christmas

7:00 pm Latin Class (TH)
7:00 pm RCIA (PC)

Tuesday, January 8:

6:00 pm Sp. Baptism Class (PC)
6:30 pm Spirituality Tuesdays (SAGH)
7:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group (OLR)
7:00 pm Knights of Columbus (DC)

Wednesday, January 9:

5:30 pm RCIA for Children (DC)
6:00 pm SOUP (OLRH)
6:30 pm Pastoral Stewardship (SAGH)

Thursday, January 10:

7:00 pm Centering Prayer (DC)
7:00 pm Hispanic 1st Comm. (PC)
7:00 pm STA Site Committee (TH)
7:30 pm TMC (TH)

Friday, January 11:

6:00 pm Friday Night Lights (DC)
7:30 pm Hispanic Young Adult (OLRH)

Saturday, January 12:

8:00 am Environment Team (OLR)

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Don't forget to rsvp to Nora Lundin, nlundin@djs.org, if you plan to attend our annual Liturgical Minister gathering—this year at St. Simon Church, 1860 Grant Ave. in Los Altos from 9am - 12 pm on Saturday, January 12th with Dan Schutte as the featured speaker.

WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS

The Widows and Widowers will meet at Harry's Hofbrau on 1909 El Camino in Redwood City on Jan 10th. We will have a room after 5 pm. RSVP with Winnie by Jan 6th at 650 493 6823 or Helen at 327-1028.

FINDING GOD

The splendid magi, all sparkle and dash and solemnity, march right up off the pages of Matthew's Gospel and into our churches today. Matthew alone tells us this grand and seductive story so that we might see the light and know that the child these magi visited is the fulfillment of prophecy, the king of the world that stretches to the magi's home country and beyond, right down the ages to us.



We too see and understand anew. Like the magi, our patron saints for this day, we see in the newborn child the king of the universe and light of the world. Like the magi, we find in ourselves a new faith and a new life. Like them, we return to our home by a new route.

We are asked to come away from this festive season ourselves renewed and awake to the presence of God among us. We are asked to find God where God is to be found, to be attentive and surprised and ready to bow down in adoration and to offer our gifts.

SIGN-UP FOR "NEW" ONLINE GIVING PROGRAM

Now at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish you can automate your weekly donation. You can sign-up online by visiting 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.

IRELAND PILGRIMAGE

It's that time again! Fr. Matt will be leading a pilgrimage to the Emerald Isle where we will spend some time in the Waterford area, Killarney, Galway, Connemara, Knock, Sligo and Dublin. This is a beautiful country and we will surely have a grand old time! We will depart the states on August 19, 2013 and return on August 29 unless you opt for the extended trip to London for four days. If you do, you will return on September 1. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Fr. Matt at 650-494-2496 ext. 12 or mstanley@dsj.org. I hope to see many of you on this special pilgrimage!

SIGN UP FOR THE PARISH eBULLETIN

The parish eBulletin is sent to 367+ parish families every Friday morning. It includes reminders, announcements and articles of interest to the parish. Because of the electronic format, we are able to include more content than the Sunday paper bulletin as well as provide last minute announcements. We will not share your email address with any other organization, commercial entity, or individual person. There are green sheets in each of our vestibules – just add your email address and drop it in the basket or send an email request to ebulletin@paloaltocatholic.org. We encourage you to sign up!

January 6, 2013

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Faith Formation Classes for children resume next week. We look forward to seeing all children back in classes next week. Parents are invited to attend their own session during the children's classes as we begin to explore the Eucharist and what it means in our lives.

There is a need for a new catechist or catechists at St. Albert the Great to teach our youngest children: Pre-K, Kindergarten and 1st Grade. Please prayerfully consider whether you can help. Contact Susan at suolsen@dsj.org if you are willing to help.

"FORGIVENESS: THE HEALING ACT"

The forgiveness retreat will be led by Susan Cabrera, MA, and is sponsored by St. Joseph's Ministry with People with Disabilities. It is open to the public. Susan is donating her time and has asked that there be no charge for participants.

This half-day retreat will focus on:

- Jesus' teachings on forgiveness
- What forgiveness is and is not
- How forgiveness promotes physical and mental health
- How to start forgiving yourself and others

Sat, Jan 19, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. St. Joseph's Catholic Community Parish Hall (downstairs), 435 Monterey Ave, Capitola. Fee: No charge. Donations go to St. Joseph's Ministry with People with Disabilities. To sign up, please leave your name and number at (831) 475-8211 ext. 17. Susan will also lead the forgiveness lecture for an upcoming Spirituality Tuesday on February 26.

YOUNG ADULT CIRCLE

Young Adult Bible Study, Tues. Jan. 8th at 7:30 pm, Our Lady of the Rosary – We are meeting to discuss Vatican II documents that Pope Benedict is encouraging us to study as part of the Year of Faith. We meet regularly on the first Tuesday of each month and we welcome you to join us!

Dinner at Pluto's, Tues. Jan. 15th at 7:30 pm, 482 University Ave., Palo Alto – The Young Adult group meets for its monthly social gathering. Please confirm your attendance on our Facebook Page "Young Adult Circle" or contact us at yacircle@gmail.com.

Young Adult Mass, Tues. Jan. 29th at 7:30 pm, St. Simon Church, 1860 Grant Rd, Los Altos – Celebrate the Eucharist with young adults (20's and 30's, single or married) from this and neighboring parishes with fellowship to follow.

For more info, see our website, www.YoungAdultCircle.org, check the Facebook Fan Page "Young Adult Circle", or contact us at yacircle@gmail.com.