

# Sixth Sunday of Easter

## TODAY'S MESSAGE

### WHAT DOES EUCHARIST OR HOLY COMMUNION MEAN TO ME?

The Sacrament of Eucharist is a mystery, a profession of faith and an obligation and a responsibility. Eucharist means “thanksgiving”. Communion gives me a vision of sharing among others. We are in ‘communion’ with Christ at every Mass as we give thanks to God for all his gifts. It is a mystery because of the non-visible change of bread into Christ’s Body and wine into the Blood of Jesus. We become Christ by sharing in his Body & Blood. For those who receive, it is a challenge to be like Christ in our daily lives.

It is a profession of faith when we approach the table of the Lord humbly, but with conviction. We believe in God, the Father almighty, and in his only Son, our Lord. Those words we speak every time we celebrate the Eucharist. It is confirmation of what we believe when we receive the Eucharist.

When we hear the words of the priest or Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, “The Body of Christ” or “The Blood of Christ”, we should respond clearly and convincingly: “Amen”. There is no reason to whisper or to just nod and say it to ourselves. Let others hear what you believe and proclaim it. Say it in a strong voice. “Amen!” “Yes, this is what I believe and I want others to hear it.”

As we have witnessed many of our children receive their First Holy Communion these past two weeks, we have an obligation to be good examples to them, by proclaiming what we believe as we receive God’s greatest gift. Our responsibility, as we depart Mass, is to be the Body of Christ to others we meet in our daily lives for the rest of the week, until we gather again.

*Nora Lundin, Director of Liturgy & Music*

## WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Thank you for sharing God's gifts! Easter is a season of joyful giving. We deeply appreciate the joyful giving of so many of our parishioners who share with us in abundance their time, talent, and treasure. Help us keep this Easter joy alive at St. Thomas Aquinas all year long by practicing good stewardship. We encourage everyone to 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.

Stewards know themselves to be both recipients and caretakers of God’s many gifts.



### Our Weekly Offering

April 28 \$10,500.00 .. Goal \$11,000.00  
Catholic Home Missions ... \$3,000.00



### Please Pray

FOR THE SICK & HOMEBOUND — Norman Swope, Robert Kerrigan Sr., William McInerny, Fr. Thierry Geris, Gary Goodahl, Carl Bunje, Jane Fitzgerald, Shui Yin Chiu, Pat O’Riordan

FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED — George Kimm, Carol Lilledahl, John Braun, Aniela Bozynski, Bill Todd, Alan Djornedoe, Milagros Fontanilla Antonio, Julie Lewis, Lee Sault, Robert E. Park

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, May 5:

8:45 am STA... Frances Galea †  
9:00 am SAG... Fr. Tony Medina †  
10:30 am STA... Ramon J. Espiritu †  
10:30 am OLR... Fr. Tony Medina † and Hong Lee †

Readings: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Rv 21:10-14, 22-23; Jn 14:23-29

Monday, May 6:

7:15 am STA... Mary Baracchi & Family †

8:30 am OLR... James & Edith Dubbs †

Readings: Acts 16:11-15; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Jn 15:26 — 16:4a

Tuesday, May 7:

8:30 am OLR... Ochoa and Manzo Family (sp. int.)

Readings: Acts 16:22-34; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday, May 8:

8:30 am OLR... David Leon Guerrero and Family (sp. int.)

12:15 pm STA... Victor Sherwinsky †

Readings: Acts 17:15, 22 — 18:1; Ps 148:1-2, 11-14; Jn 16:12-15

Thursday, May 9:

8:30 am OLR... Virginia Manzo Friends and Neighbors (sp. int.)

Readings: Acts 18:1-8; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 16:16-20

Friday, May 10: St. Damien de Veuster

7:15 am STA... Msgr. William Lenane †

8:30 am OLR... Kathleen Briggs Kerrigan †

Readings: Acts 18:9-18; Ps 47:2-7; Jn 16:20-23

Saturday, May 11:

12:15 pm STA... Rita Palomo (sp. int.)

5:00 pm SAG... Clotilda Cesano †

Readings: Acts 18:23-28; Ps 47:2-3, 8-10; Jn 16:23b-28

## PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

Ascension of the Lord — May 12, 2013

St. Albert the Great

Sat 5:00 pm ..... Msgr. Cilia

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. Rubio

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. Valenton

Sun 6:00 pm Youth ..... Fr. Seimas

# St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

## THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, May 5: Sixth Sunday of Easter; Cinco de Mayo; Julian Calendar Easter  
9:15 am ..... Rel. Ed. (OLR/ISP)  
9:15 am ..... Parent Catechesis (OLRH)  
10:15 am .... Rel. Ed. (SESS)  
9:15 am ..... Parent Catechesis (SESS)  
10:30 am .... Hispanic Catechesis (DC)  
4:30 pm ..... Edge (DC)  
7:00 pm ..... Lifeteen (DC)

Monday, May 6:  
6:00 pm ..... RCIA (PC)  
7:00 pm ..... Computer Class (TH)  
7:00 pm ..... Hispanic Lectors (OLR)  
7:00 pm ..... Latin Class (TH)

Tuesday, May 7:  
6:00 pm ..... Mexican Fiesta Potluck/  
Spirituality Tuesdays (OLRH)  
7:00 pm ..... Hispanic Prayer Group (OLR)

Wednesday, May 8:  
10:00 am .... Spirituality Tuesdays Meeting  
(PC)  
4:00 pm ..... Core Team Meetings (DC)  
4:00 pm ..... Liturgy Reading (TH)  
6:00 pm ..... RCIA for Children (DC)  
6:30 pm ..... PSC (SAGH)

Thursday, May 9:  
6:30 pm ..... Centering Prayer (DC)  
7:00 pm ..... STA Site Comm. (TH)  
7:30 pm ..... Hispanic 1st Comm. Cat. (PC)  
7:30 pm ..... TMC (PC)

Friday, May 10:  
6:00 pm ..... Goretti Group (TH)  
7:00 pm ..... Adoration (OLR)  
7:30 pm ..... Hispanic Young Adult (OLRH)

Saturday, May 11:  
8:15 am ..... Environment Team (OLR)  
8:30 am ..... Liturgy Board (SAGH)  
9:00 am ..... 5th Grade Retreat (DC)  
9:30 am ..... PIA (OLRH)  
1:00 pm ..... Religion Lecture (TH)  
6:00 pm ..... Confirmation Reception (SAGH)

## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

As of September, 1999, the Bishops of the Dioceses in the Western part of the U.S. permanently transferred this Solemnity to the 7th Sunday of Easter which this year is next Sunday, May 12th.

## APRIL ADA UPDATE

Sharing Our Faith – Together in Christ  
ADA Goal: \$120,000  
Pledged: \$135,000  
Pledges: 318 • % of Goal: 112%

## SPIRITUALITY TUESDAYS

May 7th: Our Annual Mexican Fiesta Potluck Wrap-up Session! Let's get together for a fun party, plus help us to uncover interesting topics for next year's program! We will provide chips, salsa and the beverages. When: 6:30 pm • Where: Saint Albert the Great Hospitality Room Call: 650-856-9339 or email Beverly at ndwade@pacbell.net

## COME SMELL THE ROSES

All Parishioners are invited to help celebrate the Pastoral Garden's 20th anniversary! Sunday, May 5th, at the Pastoral Garden from 2:00-3:30 pm. Come meet and mingle and enjoy an afternoon of conversation, tasty snacks, iced tea and lemonade. The garden is located behind the Pastoral Center at 3290 Middlefield Road. We will have balloons marking the driveway from Middlefield to the garden. You can also find the Garden from Our Lady of the Rosary Church driveway to the Dermody Center (behind Our Lady of the Rosary Church). We will postpone our event if the day is rainy.

## THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Saturday at the 5pm Mass, May 11th at St. Albert the Great Church. Msgr. Francis V. Cilia, Vicar General will confer upon our Confirmandi the gift of the Holy Spirit. We congratulate them, their parents, sponsors, and catechists.

## LAYETTE DRIVE MAY 4 – JUNE 2

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. Then choose one of the 2 options: 1) Take a Layette Package list and purchase one or more of the items on the list. Place purchased items inside the crib/basket at any site. 2) Don't want to shop? We welcome monetary donations. Please make checks out to St. Thomas Aquinas and write "Layette Ministry" in the memo. Place your donations in the container/envelope in the crib/basket marked "Donations." Whatever option you choose, we thank you for your donation and support of the Layette Ministry. – STA Youth Confirmation Class & St. Vincent de Paul

## CATHOLIC CHARITIES ANNUAL APPEAL NEXT WEEK

Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County changes lives for good. We help people of all cultures and beliefs rise up out of poverty and overcome the barriers to self-sufficiency. Because most lives are a complex pattern of choices and circumstances, we take a holistic approach to helping people change their lives, taking into account the whole person as well as their family and life situations. We do this through a broad range of services, including job skills training and placement, older adult services, mental health and substance abuse counseling, housing assistance, financial education, immigration support, and refugee resettlement. We also provide educational programs that help young people develop into self-sufficient adults. Each year, we serve more than 37,000 people in need. Please be generous. Envelopes are provided in the pews.

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# May 5, 2013

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## HELP NEEDED IN THE MAINTENANCE / FACILITIES

The Maintenance / Facilities Ministry is one of the 13 ministries serving our parish. This ministry has three responsibilities: Building maintenance, Safety, Use of Facilities. The responsibilities of the ministry are completed by the Building and Equipment Maintenance Committee, which meets the 4th Wednesday of each month from 9:30 a.m. - noon at the Pastoral Center. We need new people and newer, creative ideas. If you are interested, or have questions, please call Bill Morrison at 650-493-2998 or talk to a Committee members: Ted Baer, Helen Baumann, Jerry Lucha or Jim McLaughlin.

## NEW PASTORAL HOME MINISTERS NEEDED

We are in need of ministers to bring communion to individuals at home and at nursing care facilities. We also need ministers for communion services at retirement and nursing homes. Many of our ministers have retired due to age and health issues. Please consider joining this fulfilling ministry. If interested, please contact us at the Pastoral Center or call Mary Fong/Pat Dietrich directly (650-494-2496 Extension 22).

## "RESCUING RELIGION" LECTURE MAY 11

Come Saturday, May 11, 2-4 p.m., for a stimulating discussion with Dr. John Van Hagen on "Rescuing Religion: The Story Behind the Stories." The event is sponsored by the Thomas Merton Center and will be held in the Thomas House basement hall, 745 Waverley Street, Palo Alto, next door to St. Thomas Aquinas church and will be followed by a wine and cheese reception. Free will donations welcome. Dr. Van Hagen grapples with the tension created by science's challenges to the historicity of the major Bible stories: Moses never existed, Jesus did not start a church. He suggests that the greatest scientific challenge to religion is the science that reconstructs the histories of the Jewish and Christian religions and deconstructs the traditional understanding of those histories.

## PILGRIMAGE TO FRANCE

Fr George Aranha, our former pastor, wants to conclude the Year of Faith by inviting you to join him on a 11-day pilgrimage to the Shrines of France. The tour will be in the Fall from November 2 to 12, 2013. The pilgrimage starts in Lourdes and then to Nevers, we will visit the Cathedral and city of St Martin of Tours, visit the magnificent 13th century Gothic Cathedral of Chartres and a tour of Mont St Michel, perched on a rocky island in Normandy, a visit to Bayeux, Omaha Beach, Lisieux, and Paris, including Notre Dame.

If you are interested in this pilgrimage, please call the Pastoral Center at 650-494-2496 or St Clare Rectory at 408-248-7786 ext 11 or e-mail Fr George at [garanha@dsj.org](mailto:garanha@dsj.org) and we will mail you a brochure of this exciting trip.