

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

TODAY'S MESSAGE

I am Fr. Dat Luong, and I am our new Parochial Vicar at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish. Please allow me to briefly introduce myself. I was born in Vietnam. I come from a big family. I have two brothers and sisters. My parents did a great job raising us. They worked really hard to make sure that my siblings and I were able to go to school. Many families in Vietnam could not afford to do educate their children; many of them gave up because it was so hard. For this, I owed my parents big time.

Besides having great parents, I also received many other blessings. One of them was being able to come to America. This is a land of great freedom. People are able to think and to voice their opinion freely without fear. Opinions and perspectives are exchanged with great respect and no retaliation against the opposite views. I hope this will continue for a long time because this is what makes America great.

However, the greatest thing that happened to me was the awakening of my faith. God touched me in a mysterious way. His touch was so powerful that I came to know more God more deeply and profoundly. This does not make my faith journey any easier. I still have a lot of faith struggles that I have to go through like everyone else. There were so many times when they were so hard that I had to cry out: "Oh God, where are you?" And yet when I look back, I am very happy that I have chosen the path of following God. The knowledge and experience that I have gained, has made me the person God wants me to be. **(Cont'd on page 4)**

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Thank you to everyone who supported the mission and ministries of our parish during the month of June. Our average weekly collection for the 12th month and final month of this past fiscal year was \$10,583 (\$9,701 in 2012). We ended up \$21,000 short of our fiscal year goal (\$540,000 actual vs. \$561,000 budget.) The next couple of months, with vacations, are always quite challenging for our parish financially. As the attendance decreases, so can the weekly support: **a very good reason to consider using ONLINE GIVING.** The challenge lies in the fact that our financial responsibilities do not go away during the months of July & August. **Our weekly Sunday Offertory goal continues to be \$11,000. This is the amount we need each week in order to meet all of our**

financial responsibilities. Thank you for your generosity toward the work and mission of the parish. As you know, we are totally dependent upon you all of our parishioners for our livelihood.



Our Weekly Offering

July 14 Actual \$9,800 Goal . \$11,000
St. Elizabeth Seton School..... \$2,750

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, July 21: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:45 am STA.... Adolph Canelo †
9:00 am SAG ... Marcelina M. Viray †
10:30am OLR... James & Edith Dubbs †
12:00pm STA... Maria Rosaria †, Cesare Cremona † & Sophia Cremona †
Readings: Gn 18:1-10a; Ps 15:2-5; Col 1:24-28; Lk 10:38-42

Monday, July 22: St. Mary Magdalene
7:15 am STA.... Children of Clare Thomas (sp. int.)
12:15 pm STA .. Special Intention
Readings: Ex 14:5-18; (Ps) Ex 15:1-6; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Tuesday, July 23: St. Bridget
Readings: Ex 14:21-15:1; (Ps) Ex 15:8-10, 12, 17; Mt 12:46-50

Wednesday, July 24: St. Sharbel Makhloof
8:30 am OLR ... Florencio Pedron †
12:15 pm STA .. Louis Jr. (Birthday)
Readings: Ex 16:1-5, 9-15; Ps 78:18-19, 23-28; Mt 13:1-9

Thursday, July 25: St. James, Apostle
8:30 am OLR ... Brian Franklin †
12:15 pm STA .. Ann Jamaoas (Birthday)
Readings: 2Cor 4:7-15; Ps 126:1-6; Mt 20:20-28

Friday, July 26: Sts. Joachim and Anne, parents of Mary
8:30 am OLR ... Shiny Antony (Birthday)
Readings: Ex 20:1-17; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 13:18-23

Saturday, July 27: BVM
12:15 pm STA ... Francesco Poggesi †
5:00 pm SAG ... Riya Anthony (Birthday)
Readings: Ex 24:3-8; Ps 50:1-2, 5-6, 14-15; Mt 13:24-30

PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time – July 28

St. Albert the Great
Sat 5:00 pm Fr. Seimas
Sun 9:00 am Fr. Luong
Sun 11:00 am (Byzantine) Fr. Hernandez
St. Thomas Aquinas
Sun 7:30 am Fr. Hester
Sun 8:45 am Fr. Seimas
Sun 10:30 am Fr. Epie
Sun 12 noon (Gregorian) TBA

Our Lady of the Rosary
Sun 9:00 am (Spanish)... Fr. Stanley
Sun 10:30 am Fr. Luong



Please Pray

FOR THE SICK & HOMEBOUND — Norman Swope, Robert Kerrigan Sr., William McNerny,
Fr. Thierry Geris, Carl Bunje, Jane Fitzgerald, Pat O'Riordan, Danielle Parks,
Consuelo Hernandez, Rosy De Padua, Albert Beltran, Michael Mensick, Jim Johnson,
Brandon B, Tim Mauer, Anna Belle O'Toole, Kathy Gibbs and Sandra Dhuey

FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED — Bill Todd, Alan Djornedoe, Milagros Fontanilla Antonio, Julie Lewis, Lee Sault,
Robert E. Park, Osvaldo Ng, David Christy

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



St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, July 21

7:45 am Hispanic Eucharistic
Ministers Meeting

11:45 am OLR Site Committee (OLRH)

Monday, July 22

7:00 pm Computer Class (OLR)

7:30 pm Green Committee (2nd fl PC)

Tuesday, July 23

5:00 pm Rehearsal Quinceañera (SAG)

7:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group (DC)

7:30 pm Knights of Columbus (THB)

Wednesday, July 24

9:30 am Bldg & Maint Mtg (1st fl PC)

4:00 pm STA Core Team Mtgs (DC)

6:00 pm RCIA - Children (DC)

7:15 pm Catechist Prep. (DC)

Friday, July 26

7:30 pm Hispanic Young Adult (OLRH)

Saturday, July 27

8:15 am Environment Team (OLR)

10:30am Baptism Class (1st fl PC)

11:30 am Quinceañera (SAG)

5:00 pm Italian Dinner (TH)

THANK YOU, ROB!

I would like to thank Rob Alvelais and his family, with a grateful heart, for their years of liturgical service at our 5:00 pm Mass at St. Albert the Great. Rob stepped in when the former Sacristan for SAG, Jim Chinn, died. Rob's wife, Rachel, has served as Lector and Sacristan and daughter, Rachel, served many years as an Altar Server and assisted Rob as Sacristan. They are moving on to attend the 12:00 Noon Gregorian Mass. - **Nora Lundin, Liturgy Dir.**

STA ITALIAN DINNER AT THOMAS HOUSE

St. Thomas Aquinas Italian Dinner July 27—GET TICKETS NOW!

The 3rd Annual St. Thomas Aquinas Italian Dinner is happening on Saturday, July 27, at the Thomas House, 745 Waverley Street, Palo Alto—in the former rectory adjacent to St. Thomas Aquinas Church. No host bar for beer and wine opens at 5:00pm; dinner service starts at 5:45pm. For a mere \$15 per adult (\$5 per child), you will experience a truly gourmet meal: spaghetti or polenta (gluten-free) with an Italian sausage Bolognese sauce or zesty vegetarian marinara. This is definitely NOT a typical church spaghetti dinner! Chef Ted Baer has a master's touch with his sauces—you will be more than satisfied with the tongue-teasing flavors he so carefully blends.

The Thomas House Basement Hall is the center of the action, with additional seating upstairs for those who need handicapped access (reservations required). Seating is limited, so don't wait. Tickets are on sale this weekend after all Masses, or contact Helen Baumann at (650) 327-9236, or at the parish office. Food will be prepared to serve all who have purchased tickets; if your plans change and you cannot come, please let us know that your ticket cost is now a donation to the parish.

Questions? Kay Williams, (650) 328-2781, kaywill@pacbell.net

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL COLLECTION — NEXT SUNDAY!

The goal of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is to offer tangible assistance to those in need on a person to person basis and to offer spiritual services. A key strength of the Society is in the personalized delivery of help. This aid may take the form of intervention, consultation or often through direct dollar or in-kind service. St. Vincent de Paul has thousands of volunteers all over the world, including Holy Family Parish. Your generosity in next Sunday's 2nd collection will assist our own local conference of St. Vincent de Paul to help our neighbors in need. Envelopes are provided in the pews.

WIDOW & WIDOWER OUTING

Join us to see this fun musical *Damn Yankees* at Foothill College. You can call Vic and let him know at 650-328-3936. Deadline for reservations is July 29th. It will be a matinee on August 11 at 2 p.m. Price discounted to \$22. We will try for carpooling to save parking expense of \$3 per car.

SING GOD'S PRAISES! DANCE FOR JOY!

Register your children now for an "arts" summer camp which will be held from 9 a.m. to Noon on July 29-August 2 in the Hall at Our Lady of the Rosary. Children ages 6 through 12 are welcome. Participants will sing songs of worship and praise, learn movement and dance as prayer and explore Bible stories through drama. Registration forms are available in the vestibules and on the parish website. The cost of this one week camp is \$50 per child. Contact Susan in the Pastoral Center at 650-494-2496, ext. 25 or at suolsen@dsj.org.

July 21, 2013

HOTEL DE ZINK

Our parish will be bringing food to the homeless at the Christian Reformed Church on Arastradero Road during the first two weeks of August. Ruth Chippendale will be signing volunteers up after the Masses during the month of July. If you miss her after Mass and would like to help, please call her at 650-856-6350. Thank you for your assistance.

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS BRIDGE GROUP

Something NEW this coming bridge year - All games will be played on the 3rd Friday of each month in the afternoon. We encourage newcomers and old-timers to register for the coming year with Anne Ackerman at 650-326-1336 or Nickie Andrews at 650-494-2152 as soon as possible. Play will begin in September so a letter with instructions will be mailed in August. Deadline to register is August 23rd.

UPDATE ON 2013 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

Our ADA totals as of today July 1, 2013 are:

Total pledged: \$138,000

Total paid: \$118,000

Total Refund: \$0

Anticipated Refund: \$20,000

Number of Donors: 350

Please keep making your regular payments. When all our pledges

have been paid, St. Thomas Aquinas will receive a much needed rebate to help us pay for improvements to our parish facilities. Thank you for your support of Bishop



FR. DAT (CONT'D. FROM PAGE 2)

Jesus tells us in the Gospel this Sunday "Martha, why do you worry about many things? There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part." The one thing that Mary has chosen is to be with God and to listen to God. I am very lucky because I was able to hear the call of God and to follow him.

This is little something about me. I am very happy that Bishop McGrath and Bishop Daly have assigned me to St. Thomas Aquinas parish. This is a great faith community. I am looking forward to know and to work with everyone and hopefully we will have a great journey of faith together.

Fr. Dat Luong, Parochial Vicar