

# SAINT THOMAS MORE CHURCH CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY

1300 Junipero Serra Blvd.  
(off Brotherhood Way)  
San Francisco, CA 94132-2913

Office: (415) 452-9634

Fax: (415) 452-9653

www.stmchurch.com



## First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2008

Be watchful! Be alert!

You do not know when the time will  
come.

• *Mark 13:33*

**Today we begin the new liturgical year.** We begin our new year with the Season of Advent. It is a season in which we prepare for the celebration of the anniversary of the coming of Christ into our world. We already heard last Sunday about the final judgment; in this season of Advent we learn how to prepare ourselves and in the liturgy we express our longing for the Kingdom to come. It is a season in which those words in the Our Father, Thy kingdom come, are especially significant

**In today's Gospel** Jesus tells us to be on our guard and to be ready for that day because we cannot know when it will come. All we do know is that the Master will certainly come and that we must prepare ourselves to be ready to greet him. We surely hope that we will not be found wanting. We hope with all our hearts that Christ will find us worthy on that great day of days.

**The message of today** is that sorting ourselves out is not something that we can leave till tomorrow. Our moral failings must be dealt with today. Tendencies towards spitefulness, malicious gossiping, correcting other peoples mistakes, telling untruths, dishonesty, failures in our relationships, etc, etc, must all be dealt with today. Repentance and making amends cannot be delayed. We know that sin is a contaminant; it pollutes our lives. So it is not only a question of being on our guard against new sins, we must also repent and make amends for all those old ones.

We are, however, especially blessed because we live in a Christian community. We in the Church are all striving for holiness. We are all aiming in the same direction and there is strength in numbers; it is far easier for us to grow in holiness together rather than alone and isolated. **St Paul points this out in the second reading.** Like him we should be thankful that we have so many teachers and that so many people around us are actively witnessing to their faith in Christ.

**In the First Reading Isaiah** says that without God our natural inclination would be to drift away from him and become proud and independent. But God has revealed his face to us in the person of Jesus Christ and through him acts in our lives constantly guiding and protecting us. The simplest acts of kindness, the times we give encouragement or affirmation, the inclusion of other peoples' needs in our prayers—all these are ways we can teach and give example to our faith.

**Let us resolve in this new year to make this new year a year of grace,** a year in which we move decisively towards God and away from our sins. ([parts] from jspaluch).

**Celebrating the Jubilee Year of St. Paul:**

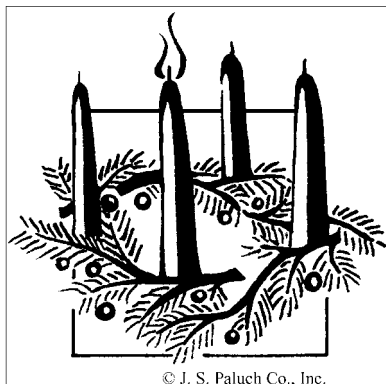
**It started on June 28, 2008 and it finishes on June 29, 2009.**

**Our Church will help the parishioners find resources to celebrate this special Jubilee year:**

Beginning on June 29, 2008 the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul the Church throughout the world will observe a year dedicated to the Apostle Paul. Catholics and Orthodox, and Christians of many other denominations as well, will mark this special year the second millennium of the apostle's birth reflecting on his words, seeking his intercession, and following the ancient pilgrim way that leads to the great Basilica which rises above the tomb of the apostle, just outside the ancient walls of Rome.

St. Thomas More church will help the parishioners to find resources and will celebrate this special year in prayers during the different liturgies at the different masses. The church will call on conferences and spiritual retreats that will treat the theme of St. Paul. We call on all our different spiritual ministers to please give us your suggestions.

St. Paul, *Pray for us.*



**Staff**

**Pastor: Church & School**

Msgr: Labib Kobti

**Parochial Vicar:**

Fr Andrew Johnson

**Priest Brazilian Community** Fr.

Sergio da Silva, (415) 454-8141

**Deacon:**

Khaled Abu Shaer

**Admin Assistant:**

Elvira Garcia

**Receptionist:**

Sr Teresa Malave, VDMF

**Campus Ministry:** Verbum Dei

Sisters, (650) 994-6919

**RCIC:**

**Kathy Sanford**

650) 738-0646

**RCIA & Music:**

**Suzanne Hockel** (415) 826-6834

**STM School:**

**Principal, Joe Elsbernd**

(415) 337-0100

*This Week's Parish*

*Events*

**Tue, Dec 2nd —**

**Legion of Mary,**

Scanlan Hall, 6:30 pm

**Communion & Liberation, Chapel,**

7:30 pm

**Wed. Dec. 3rd —**

**NERT, Scanlan Hall, 6:30 pm**

**Brazilian Choir Practice, Church, 7**

pm

**Fri. Dec 5th (First Friday) —**

First Friday. Adoration of the Blessed

Sacrament, 7 pm, Mass, 8 pm.

**Sat. Dec 6th (First Saturday) —**

**Burmese Mass, 10 am**

**RCIC Classes, Flower Sacristy, 9 am**

**Teen Confirmation Classes, Flower**

Sacristy, 10:30 am

**Bible Study & Prayer Group**

at Alma Via, 7 pm.

**Campus Ministry,**

check schedule for Masses & meetings on church board at the entrance.

**MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 PM

**Sunday**

8:00 AM Portuguese/Brazilian;

10:00 AM English

11:45 AM Arabic;

8:00 PM English

**Weekdays:**

8:30 AM

(Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat.);

5:30 PM (Tue., Thu.)

**Holy Days:**

8:30 AM & 8:00 PM

First Saturdays:

10:00 AM Burmese

**First Fridays:**

8:30 AM

7:00 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Followed by Mass for healing at 8:00 PM

**Sacrament of Baptism (infants):** Parents and godparents must attend Baptism Preparation Class. Call the office for Schedule.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Sundays 9:30—9:45 AM; Saturday 4:30 PM. Any time upon request.

**Sacrament of Matrimony:** Contact us at least 6 months prior to wedding date.

**Communion to the homebound and the ill:** Anyone who is ill and unable to attend Mass and would like to receive Communion may call the office to schedule a visit.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Any time upon request. If a parishioner is seriously ill at home, please inform the parish office regarding a visit for anointing.

**Funeral arrangements:** Funeral Director should contact Parish Office.

**Regular Activities**

Parish Council  
Liturgy Committee  
Legion of Mary  
Communion & Liberation

To Be Announced  
As Announced  
Tuesday, 6:30 PM  
Tuesday, 7:30 PM

& Prayer  
Saturday, 7 PM at Alma Via  
AACC Youth Group  
Perpetual Novena: Sto. Nino  
Prince of Peace

Bible Study  
Friday, 6:00 PM  
Last Friday, 7 PM  
Friday, 8:30 PM

*Enrich your faith, tune in to 24-hour 1260 AM, Immaculate Heart Radio*

**Full Plate Program:** Thanks for your support of this program. Pls. bring your donations & place them in the green bins at the church entrance. Menu items: 1 bag of rice, 1 can of vegetables, 1 can of tuna or chicken, 1 plastic bottle of cooking oil. No glass items, please. Thanks.



**\*First Friday. Dec. 5th** will be the first Friday of the month. We will have our usual **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 7 PM** and the healing **Mass at 8 PM**.

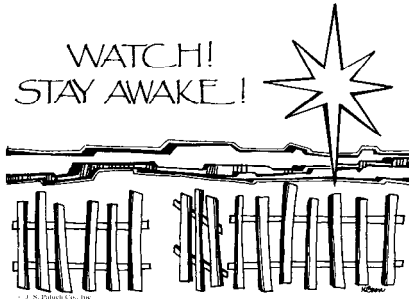
**\*Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.** Monday, December 8th, is a holy day of obligation. Our Masses will be at 8:30 AM and 8:00 PM.

**\*Children's Choir.** Please bring your children to the 1:30 practices immediately following the 11:45 Masses. They will sing at the International Christmas Novenas, join the cable car caroling and at the Christmas children's Mass and during Liturgies during the year.

**\*Decorating for Christmas:** We need our parishioners to help us decorate around and in the church for Christmas. Please contact our office if you are able to help. The need is IMMEDIATE.

**\*Christmas Schedule.** Flyers are available at the vestibule of the church. Keep them in an easily accessible place like the refrigerator door or your dresser mirror.

**\*Christmas Party, Dec 20th.** Tickets are now available at the office for the Christmas party at Patio Espanol, on Alemany Street, starts at 6:30 PM. Tickets cost \$65, and includes much good food and lots of fun. Everyone is invited.



**\*\*Carols for a Cause.** Please join us and bring blessings and cheer to the sick and the homebound. Sign up for Christmas Carols by Cable Car. Msgr. Labib will provide Holy Communion and house blessings. A minimum donation of \$5 per person is requested to ride the cable car. Hot cocoa and cookies will be provided. We would also visit your home if you call the office and request a stop at your house. A small donation would be appreciated. Please refer to attached flyer.

**\*Safety.** Surveillance cameras have now been installed and are working. We hope this will help us identify and 'catch' the culprit. This is not a reason, however, to be complacent about safety in our church grounds. Please do not leave anything in your car that can be stolen!

**\*Immaculate Heart Radio's December On-Air Pledge Drive** will be held Tuesday, Dec. 2nd through Thursday, December 4th — from 6 am to 6 pm each day at Mater Dolorosa School in South San Francisco. Help is needed with answering phones, running errands, and with hospitality. If you can help for an hour or a couple of hours any day, please call Debora Heinrichs at (916) 535-0500 ext 221 or email her at dheinrichs@ihradio.org.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**November 30th– Dec 6th 2008**

11/30 Sun	10:00am	People of STM
	8:00 pm	Vincent Cruz (B' Day)
12/01 Mon	8:30am	Collin & Sara Noguera
12/02 Tue	5:30 pm	Leonida Sayo (Thanksg.)
12/03 Wed	8:30 am	Shirley Ingaran (Sp. Int.)
12/04 Thu	5:30pm	Collin & Sara Noguera
12/05 Fri	8:30 am	Ann Mangan †
	8:00pm	Maria Jane Manzano †
12/06 Sat	8:30 am	Meilee Yu (Sp. Int.)
	5:00 pm	Samiere Family (Sp. Int.)

Please call the office to schedule your Mass. **Attending the Mass you offer is appreciated.**



**All the sick people in our parish,** especially Frankie Barabad, Patricia Colburn, Barbara Cunningham, Carmel Desmond, Collin & Sara Fernando-Noguera, Catherine Moynihan, Mac Nuqui, Marie Paynor-Cia, John Schulz, Lourdes Tam, Filemon Trinidad, Alejandro Villavicencio, Bridget Barry, Pepito Paraiso, Ruby Jimenez and for all who are battling cancer of whatever form in our parish.

**All the deceased** from our parish .

**Weekly Offering**



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**Weekend of 11/23/08:  
\$4,645**

**Thank you for your generosity.**

**Have a wonderful Advent and prayerful preparation for Christmas.**



If you are new to the area and not yet registered at Saint Thomas More Parish, we invite you to fill this out, cut it out and return it to the parish office/rectory or drop in the collection basket.

I choose to become a member of St. Thomas More and commit myself to building a community that seeks to act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with God. I will commit myself to this mission by my active & consistent presence at worship financial giving even when I can't be present.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_ I want to receive the envelopes and commit myself to a weekly contribution.  
 Yes, please \_\_\_\_\_ No, thanks. \_\_\_\_\_ Subscribe to our mailing list by e-mailing us: stmchurch@aol.com