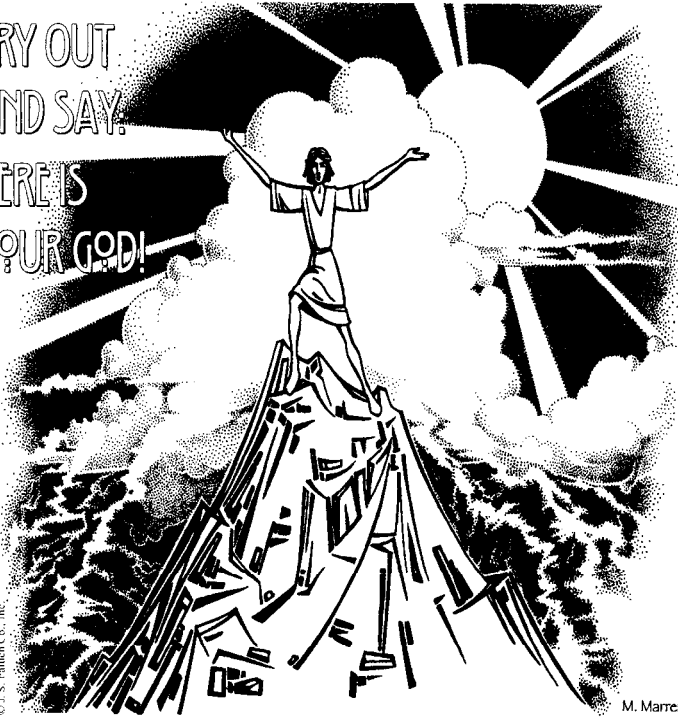


CRY OUT
AND SAY:
HERE IS
YOUR GOD!



SAINT THOMAS MORE CHURCH CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY

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2nd Sunday of Advent

December 7th, 2008

**“Every valley shall be filled in,
Every mountain and hill shall
be made low.” — Isaiah 40:4**

Sins of Impatience

Bottom line: We need to learn God's time - to avoid those sins of impatience that cause so much harm. If we wait patiently, he will give us every good thing.

The theme this Sunday is about God's time and our time. To illustrate this, I will begin with a humorous story:

A man once had a conversation with God. He asked, "Lord, I have always wondered about time. What is a thousand years like for you?" God answered, "For me a thousand years is like a second." The man then asked, "What about money? What is a million dollars like for you?" And God answered, "For me a million dollars is like a penny." The man became eager and said, "Lord, could you give me one of those pennies?" God answered, "No problem, but you will have to wait one second."

Today St. Peter reminds us that God's time is different from ours. "With the Lord," says St. Peter, "one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day." Then Peter exhorts us, he urges us to be patient because God is patient with us. "The day of the Lord will come," he assures us.

Patience is such an important virtue. It means waiting, sacrificing some immediate satisfaction for the sake of a greater good. Impatience, on the other hand, is the unwillingness to wait, wanting it all right now.

We need to return to the basics - and there is no virtue more basic than patience. It means discipline, hard work, sacrifice, waiting for the right moment. Patience is difficult. But it does bring great rewards. It is not foolproof, but it does indicate that patience brings blessings even in this present life. Patience is not easy - and I need to learn it just as much as you do.

Advent is a time for precisely that - to learn patience. It is a season of "waiting in joyful hope." Today we lit the second candle of the Advent Wreath. The Advent Wreath (in its modern form) was invented to teach patience. A man named Johann Hinrich Wichern (1808-1881) had founded a home for poor children in Hamburg. The children kept asking him how many days were left until Christmas. As a response, he developed the Advent Wreath with its candles to give the children some idea.

We use the Advent Wreath for a similar purpose - to learn patience: To wait, not nervously, but patiently. For sure, things sometimes seem dark, but the Advent Wreath says that the light of Christ has come - and that it will grow. We need to learn God's time - to avoid those sins of impatience that cause so much harm. If we wait patiently, he will give us every good thing. Teach us, Lord, to wait patiently until the proper moment. Teach us, Lord, to wait in joyful hope.

- Father Phil Bloom, jspaluch

Celebrating the Year of St. Paul

Prayer to the Apostle Paul

Glorious St. Paul, Most zealous Apostle, Martyr for the love of Christ, Give us a deep faith, A steadfast hope, A burning love for our Lord; So that we can proclaim with you, "It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me." Help us to become apostles serving the Church with a pure heart, witnesses to her truth and beauty amidst the darkness of our days. With you we praise God our Father: "To Him be the glory, in the Church and in Christ, now and forever." Amen.

"Pray without ceasing" -- St. Paul

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*Like a shepherd
he feeds his flock*

This Week's Parish

Events

Mon. Dec 8th —

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Holy day of obligation: Masses are at 8:30am & 8pm.

Tue. Dec. 9th--

Legion of Mary,

Scanlan Hall, 6:30 pm

Communion & Liberation,

Scanlan Hall, 7:30 pm

Wed. Dec. 10th —

NERT, Scanlan Hall, 6:30 pm

Brazilian Choir Practice, Church 7pm

Fri. Dec 12th —

AACC Youth Group

Scanlan Hall, 6-8:30pm

Children's Mass and

STM Pageant at 7pm in Church

Sat. Dec 13th —

RCIC Classes, Flower Sacristy, 9 am

Teen Confirmation Classes,

Flower Sacristy, 10:30 am

Young Adults Meeting

Scanlan Hall, 2—5 pm

Bible Study & Prayer Group

Alma Via, 7 pm.

Campus Ministry,

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

Sunday, Dec 14, 1:30 pm:

Carols for a Cause

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***December 8th.** Tomorrow, December 8th is the **Feast of the Immaculate Conception**, which is a **holy day of obligation**. Our Masses are at 8:30 AM and at 8:00 PM.

***Decorating for Christmas.** Many thanks to all who have helped us so far with church decorations. Help is still needed to complete the decorations. Please contact the office if you are available to help.

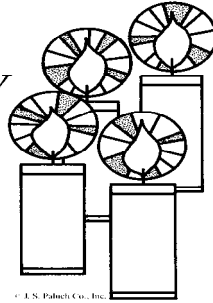
***Children's Choir.** All children are invited to join the choir. Practices are at 1:30 every Sunday, immediately following the 11:45 AM Mass. They will sing at the International Christmas Novenas, join the cable car caroling and at the Christmas children's Mass and Liturgies during the year.

***Carols by Cable Car.** Sign up for this joyful occasion on Sunday, December 14th, spreading holiday cheer to the sick and the homebound.

***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.

***Coloring Contest.** Have your child color the front page picture & send it to the rectory. The best colored one will be picked, & the winner will get to pick something from the gift shop as a prize. Kids have to be 7 years old or younger.

Make Ready the Way of the Lord



***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. Lots of good food, tons of fun, wonderful music and energetic dancing are all covered by the \$65 ticket. Everyone is invited.

***Offertory Envelopes.** If you are registered with the parish but haven't received your offertory envelopes or your copies of Catholic San Francisco, please call the office or send us a little note either in the collection basket or drop it off at the rectory. Offertory envelopes allow us to track cash your donations for tax deduction purposes at the end of the year. Thanks.

***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!

***For those grieving.** There will be a **Christmas Remembrance Service** (No Mass) at the **Holy Cross Cemetery, All Saints Mausoleum on Saturday, December 13th at 11:00 am.** Please contact Holy Cross Cemetery at (650) 756-2060 for more info.

MASS INTENTIONS

December 7th– Dec 13th 2008

12/07 Sun	10:00am	People of STM
	8:00 pm	Carmen A. Mercado †
12/08 Mon	8:30am	Carmina Gevara (B'day)
	8:00pm	Collin & Sara Fernando-Noguera
12/09 Tue	5:30 pm	Josephine Ryan †
12/10 Wed	8:30 am	Lily Santos †
12/11 Thu	5:30pm	Virginia Malave †
12/12 Fri	8:30 am	Joan Carew †
12/13 Sat	8:30 am	Mario Gutierrez †
	5:00 pm	Peter Navarro †

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, Pepito Paraiso, Ruby Jimenez and for all who are battling cancer of whatever form in our parish.

All the deceased from our parish especially Bridget Barry & Maria Piedad Sanchez.

Weekly Offering



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Weekend of 11/30/08:

\$3,947

(Second) Collection for needy:

\$692

Thank you for your generosity.

Have a 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