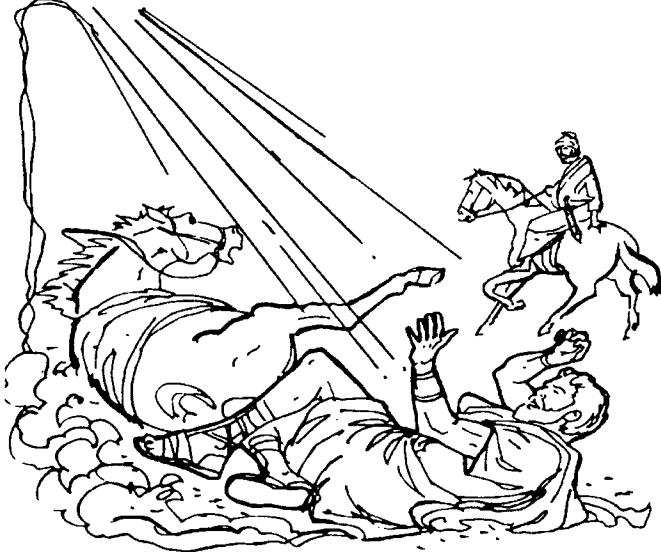


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Conversion of Saint Paul

SAINT THOMAS MORE CHURCH CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY

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3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 25, 2009

The kingdom of God is at hand.
Repent, and believe in the gospel.

— Mark 1:15

If I were elected president?

By Abouna Labib Kobti, Pastor

This week we had the inauguration of our new president. It was a historic moment for all Americans and for the whole world.

If I were elected president what would I do? Can you think with me?

I will promise to respect with great love the American ideal of freedom for the whole world, equality and prosperity for all, and look out for the interests of all peoples just as I would look out for the interests of Americans.

I want to make our country the great United States that God wants: A country that calls for freedom and equality for all, a country that cannot align with anybody to the detriment of another country. I will be pro-justice, pro-peace, and pro-truth. I will work with other countries to make this world a better place to live in, a world created by God equally at the service of humanity, where we refuse to promote self-interests. We cannot protect our US interests and not respect the interests of others. I would call the whole world, through my example to give up any kind of weapons that kill humankind and I would change the ways of war to ways of peace for the common good of the whole world.

I will ask God to bless America, as I would rule under God's Love: Do to others what you like to be done to you. The respect of other's ethnicity, tradition, color, language, culture will be my way to share, to cooperate, to entertain and to work with love.

I am sure that America would be safe when the whole world is safe; and when I respect the needs, the duties and the responsibilities of all, at the service of all.

Then, anywhere and everywhere will be America and it will be Europe, Asia, Africa, and all the people created in the image of God. And there will be peace, as every one will love everybody in a paradise willed by God from the very beginning of Creation.

As President Obama has said: *"What is required of us now is a new era of responsibility — a recognition, on the part of every American; that we have duties to ourselves, our nation, and the world, duties that we do not grudgingly accept but rather seize gladly, firm in the knowledge that there is nothing so satisfying to the spirit, so defining of our character, than giving our all to a difficult task. This is the price and the promise of citizenship. This is the source of our confidence — the knowledge that God calls on us to shape an uncertain destiny. "*

Celebrating the Year of St. Paul

"Be ambitious for the higher gifts. And I am going to show you a way that is better than any of them. If I have all the eloquence of men or of angels, but speak without love, I am simply a gong booming or a cymbal clashing. If I have the gift of prophecy, understanding all the mysteries there are, and knowing everything, and I have faith in all its fullness, to move mountains, but without love, then I am nothing at all. If I give away all that I possess, piece by piece, and if I even let them take my body to burn it, but am without love, it will do me no good whatever" -1COR. 12:31, 13:1-3

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

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Verbum Dei Sisters,

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RCIC:

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650) 738-0646

RCIA & Music:

Suzanne Hockel

(415) 826-6834

STM School:

Principal, Joe Elsbernd

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This Week's Parish

Events

Tue., Jan 6th--

Legion of Mary,

Scanlan Hall, 6:30 pm

Communion & Liberation,

Scanlan Hall, 8:00 pm

Wed., Jan 7th --

NERT, Scanlan Hall, 6:30 pm

Brazilian Choir Practice, Church 7pm

Fri., 9th --

AACC Youth Group

Scanlan Hall, 6-8:30pm

Sat., 10th --

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.

FAMILY INFLUENCE

***D*isorder in the society is the result of disorder in the family.**

—St. Angela Merici

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
AACC Youth Group
Perpetual Novena: Sto. Nino
Prince of Peace

Bible Study
Saturday, 7 PM at Alma Via
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 can of cereal, 1 can of tuna or chicken, 1 bag of pasta, 1 container of 100% juice. No glass items, please. Thanks.

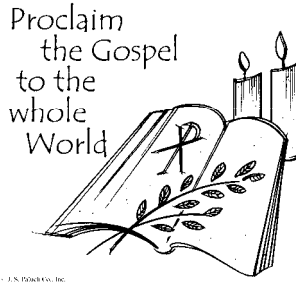
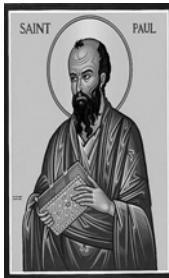
MASS INTENTIONS
Jan 25th—31st, 2009

01/25 Sun 10:00am Norma Bustos †
8:00 pm People of STM
01/26 Mon 8:30am Catherine & Patrick Moynihan
01/27 Tue 5:30 pm Vincent & Margarita Florest
01/28 Wed 8:30 am Flora Villa Aquino †
01/29 Thu 5:30pm Lilian Valle
01/30 Fri 8:30 am Teresa Moynihan †
01/31 Sat 8:30 am Marco Ocbena †
5:00 pm Flora Villa Aquino †

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



***Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul.** Today we observe this feast, rather than the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, as noted in last week's bulletin. St. Paul Jubilee Year prayer cards are available at the vestibule of our church. Please take one and use them whenever possible. Thanks.



***Mass Intentions.** Get your lists of significant dates (death anniversaries, birthdays, special days – yours and of loved ones) together, our 2009 calendar is ready for you. Please call the office so we can schedule your Mass Intentions for the year.

***A special invitation.** The Archdiocese of SF, in conjunction with the Order of Malta invites all who are sick and their caregivers to the first annual World Day of the Sick Mass on Saturday, February 7th at 12 Noon. Venue will be the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption, 1111 Gough Street, SF. Principal celebrant will be Archbishop Niederauer. The Mass will include anointing of the sick, blessing of the hands of their caregivers, and a blessing with Lourdes water.

***Gaza situation.** Catholic Relief Services, the agency that represents American Catholics in meeting the needs of the poor internationally, has been in Jerusalem and Gaza for over 50 years. CRS & partners on the ground have already begun helping civilians affected by the airstrikes in Gaza. While a ceasefire has been achieved, thru CRS we have a moral obligation to assist with the humanitarian needs of all peoples affected by war. Please consider donating:

***STM Church Crab Feed.** Our STM Church Crab Feed will be on February 7th in Carroll Hall. This has always been a sell-out event, please call Rana at (415) 235-3520 or the office (415) 452-9634 to make your reservations soon.

- 1) Online: <http://www.crs.org/jerusalem/gaza-bombing>
- 2) Phone: Please call 1-800-736-3467 between 8:00 am and 11:00 pm EST
- 3) Mail: A check to Catholic Relief Services, For Gaza Relief, P.O. Box 17090 Baltimore, MD 21203.
- 4) Visit: <http://action.cmep.org> & sign ecumenical Christian letter to Pres. Obama urging him to make peace in the region a priority in his first 100 days in office.

***Santo Niño Fiesta.** Thank you to all who came and celebrated our Santo Nino Fiesta yesterday. Again, please note that there will be no novena on the 30th of the month.

Pray for ...
All the sick people in our parish, especially Linda Biagini, 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, Gordon Lu, Rosauro Tan, Jean Lu, Bridget Suazon and for all in our parish who are battling cancer of whatever form and stage.

All the deceased from our parish esp. Pepito Paraiso, Nick Wilmes and Bernardo Casco.



**Your weekly offerings:
Weekend of 01/18/09:
\$6,095.03**

This week's second collection is for the Church in Latin America.

Thank you for your generosity!



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