

# Jesus taught with authority



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## SAINT THOMAS MORE CHURCH CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY

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**Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**February 1, 2009**

Come, let us bow down in worship;  
let us kneel before the **LORD** who made us.

—*Psalm 95:6*

### **God Promises Happy Endings**

*Joseph Ramos, Permanent Deacon Candidate*

There's not a day that goes by without the economy being the daily news headline. People are losing or have already lost their homes, jobs, businesses and or investments. For those who have weak faiths, it may seem that the world is falling apart or even coming to an end.

Long before we were even conceived, God already knew each of us. In fact, He had already prepared a plan and path for our lives. Nothing in life is a coincidence. We are all part of God's perfect plan. Despite God being loving, wise, and good, we must understand (and most importantly accept) that His plan includes trials, challenges, problems, and difficulties. Sometimes we are privileged to find out and understand why God allowed certain things to happen, and sometimes we won't find out His reason during our time here on Earth. God's plan is often a mystery to us, but always remember that good will be the end result.

The greatest example is our Lord Jesus Christ. God had a plan for Jesus too. God's plan for Jesus was to share in humanity, undergo tremendous suffering and ultimately die. What is the end result of Jesus' suffering and death? Good of course. We are redeemed and saved through His death and resurrection. Jesus had to suffer and die to save us. No matter what difficulty we encounter in life, good will be the end result. As Christians, we share the burden of carrying the cross. When you find yourself in a difficult situation, just think about Jesus and what He went through. We too will survive and we too will be resurrected from our troubles. Jesus proved that there is life after death. Place your trust in God and His plan. Trust that your situation will improve too and good will be the end result.

Some thoughts for reflection: 1) Maybe someone lost their job because there was a better one waiting for them with another company. 2) Maybe someone lost their home, due to a new payment they could no longer afford. 3) Perhaps they worked endless hours in order to pay their mortgage and neglected time spent with family. 4) Maybe a loved one was stricken with an illness. 5) Perhaps their illness brought the family together, or helped family members forgive each other for past hurts. 6) Maybe someone lost a substantial amount of their investments. 7) Perhaps it was a wake up call to share their wealth with the less fortunate.

As you share the burden in carrying the cross, find your strength in prayer as Jesus did. If it seems that your prayers aren't being answered, try doubling up and even tripling your prayers. He is listening, and yes He does answer all prayers – but in His own perfect way. Learn to surrender to God's plan. When you go about your daily activities, try asking yourself, "is this my plan or God's plan"? How will you know if it is God's plan? Through prayer and careful discernment. There will be times where we intentionally or mistakenly stray away from the path God intended for us. However, He has a wonderful and tactful way of working through people and events in our lives to get us back on track. Again, nothing in life is a coincidence.

We are merely actors in a movie. The script has been written long ago and cannot be changed. Although, the plot may contain moments of sadness, disappointment or despair, a beautiful and joyous ending is guaranteed as this movie is being produced and directed by God the Father.

**Celebrating the Year of St. Paul**

I want you to know, brothers, that the gospel preached by me is not of human origin. For I did not receive it from a human being, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you heard of my former way of life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it, and progressed in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries among my race, since I was even more a zealot for my ancestral traditions. But when (God), who from my mother's womb had set me apart and called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, so that I might proclaim him to the Gentiles.

—Galatians 1: 11-16a

**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

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Sr Teresa Malave, VDMF

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Verbum Dei Sisters,

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**RCIA & Music:**

Suzanne Hockel

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**STM School:**

Principal, Joe Elsbernd

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**This Week's Parish**

**Events**

**Tue., Feb 3rd--**

**Blessing of Throats:**

**9:30 am & after the 5:30 Mass**

**Legion of Mary,**

Scanlan Hall, 6:30 pm

**Communion & Liberation,**

Scanlan Hall, 8:00 pm

**Wed., Feb. 4th —**

**Brazilian Choir Practice, Church 7pm**

**Fri. Feb. 6th —**

**AACC Youth Group**

Scanlan Hall, 6-8:30pm

**Adoration, 7:00 pm**

**Healing Mass, 8 pm**

**Sat., Feb. 7th**

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

**Teen Confirmation Classes,**

Flower Sacristy, 10:30 am

**Young Adults Meeting**

Chapel, 2—5 pm

**Bible Study & Prayer Group**

Alma Via, 7 pm.

**Campus Ministry,**

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

**HAPPY PEOPLE**

**The** happiest people don't necessarily have the best of everything. They just make the best of everything. —Anonymous

**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

Bible Study & Prayer  
AACC Youth Group  
Perpetual Novena: Sto. Nino  
Prince of Peace  
FLA Youth Group

Saturday, 7 PM at Alma Via  
Friday, 6:00 PM  
Last Friday, 7 PM  
Friday, 8:30 PM  
1st & 3rd Wed. at 6:30pm

*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.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

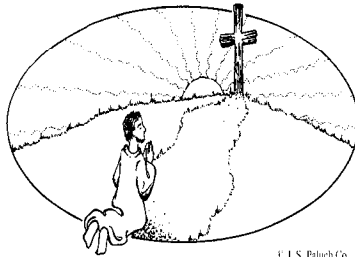
**\*A special invitation.** Everyone is invited to our Holy Hour (Adoration, Rosary, Benedict) in church at 7:30 PM six days a week (Mondays to Saturdays) and at 6 PM on Sundays. No sign ups needed. Come whenever you can. We'd love to have you there.

**\*February 3rd, St. Blaise Day.** There will be a special blessing of throats at 9:30 AM on Tuesday, February 3rd. Please come and join our school children or come to our 5:30 Mass on that day.

**\*Another special invitation.** All who are sick and their caregivers are invited to first annual World Day of the Sick Mass on Saturday, February 7th at 12 noon. Mass will be at 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.

**\*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 and make your reservations .... soon.

**\*Training schedule** for new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and New Lectors is now available. Please check with your respective Mass coordinators.



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**\*Thank you** to all the members of our Parish Pastoral Council, the Finance Committee and the Parish Advisory Board for starting this new year with fresh energies, new ideas and for more specific plans to meet our obligations this year. Thank you for your hard work so early in the year, we are confident this enthusiasm will be infectious and will multiply many times over.

**\*Couples for Christ.** Family ministries will be start a Christian Life Program on February 21, 2009 here at STM. Program will open with the 5:00 PM Mass and will meet every Saturday thereafter. For more information, take a flyer from the vestibule.

## School News

**\*The 5th Annual Scholastics Book Fair** made a stop at St. Thomas More School during National Catholic Schools' Week, Jan 26-Feb 1, 2009. Everyone is invited to come check out the wonderful selection of books and merchandise available. This year the Book Fair is in the School's new library! Profits from the Fair will be used to fill the shelves of that library, as well as putting books into classrooms in our school. See you at the Fair! You still have a few hours today, Sunday, February 1st!

## MASS INTENTIONS Febr;ua;ry 1st—7th , 2009

02/01 Sun 10:00am	People of STM
8:00 pm	Lilian Valle (Thanksgiving)
02/02 Mon 8:30am	Souls in Purgatory †
02/03 Tue 5:30 pm	Josephine Ryant†
02/04 Wed 8:30 am	Laura & Mario Biagini†
02/05 Thu 5:30pm	Irene & Russell De Havent†
02/06 Fri 8:30 am	Father Patrick Keanet†
8:00 pm	Pacifico P.† & Gerladine Pili
02/07 Sat 8:30 am	Collin & Sara F. Noguera
5:00 pm	Samiere Family

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



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, Ruby Jimenez, Gordon Lu, Rosauo 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.

## Weekly Offering



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**Your weekly offerings:  
Weekend of 01/25/09:  
\$5,346.84**

**Church in Latin America:  
\$690.01**

**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