

We
proclaim
Christ
crucified



SAINT THOMAS MORE CHURCH CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY

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Third Sunday of Lent March 15, 2009

I, the LORD, am your God...You shall not have
other gods besides me.
—Exodus 20:2a,3

THE TEN COMANDMENTS Campion P. Gavaler, OSB

Since the Passover was near, Jesus goes up to Jerusalem to celebrate the festival with his fellow Jews. When he arrives at the temple area, he drives out those who were selling animals for sacrifice as well as the money changers, saying, "Take these out of here, and stop making my Father's house a marketplace." When the temple authorities (the "Jews") demanded a sign from Jesus for what he had done, he said, "Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up." After Jesus was raised from the dead his disciples remembered what he had said. They realized he was speaking of the temple of his body, and came to believe the Scripture and what he had spoken. John adds that Jesus was able to recognize true belief in him because he could read the human heart.

The idea of where one lives or dwells is perhaps the central theme of the fourth gospel. John begins his gospel by telling us that Jesus is the Word who became flesh and made his dwelling among us. "In the beginning" the Word was dwelling with God, and the Word was God. Immediately after his baptism in the Jordan, we hear the first words that Jesus speaks in the fourth gospel. He sees two disciples of John the Baptist following him and says to them, "What are you looking for?" They reply, "Rabbi, where do you dwell?" Jesus replies, "Come, and you will see."

We already are alerted to the fact that John's gospel is a gospel of incarnation. Its essence is sacramental or symbolic: the extraordinary is actualized in the ordinary. The eternal Word becomes present and is revealed by dwelling among us. Thus we realize that the disciples' question about where Jesus is dwelling is not merely about a street address somewhere in Galilee. When Jesus replies "Come, and you will see," we realize he also means seeing with the eyes of faith. When he speaks to his disciples, we realize he is also speaking to us.

The astonishing good news that Jesus reveals is that anyone who believes in him will dwell where he dwells, with the Father. John's gospel is the narrative of the signs that Jesus does so that those whom he encountered then, and those who hear the gospel now might believe and have life in him (20:30-31). John presents various types of people who refuse to see the "extraordinary" through the signs, and also the beloved disciples who do see and come to believe in Jesus.

Today's gospel is a prophetic warning so that we will not be like the temple authorities that do not see that Jesus is the one sent by God to dwell among us in new ways. Jesus' action in the temple is in the tradition of the prophets. They rebuked the people who thought they were safe by coming to the temple while committing all sorts of abominations (Jer 7). Jesus like the prophets before him loved the temple, but he is warning us that even the most holy created realities can become obstacles to believing in him and believing what he has spoken. The temple truly was the dwelling place of the divine presence: the holy place of prayer and communion with God. The temple authorities believed this, but they had narrowed their vision, and thus were unable to see that Jesus himself was the new temple. He himself is the indestructible dwelling place of the divine presence, of prayer and communion with God.

We can reduce the meaning of the Christian sacraments to suit our own purposes, and thus close our eyes to other signs of the divine presence to which the sacraments point. For Catholics the most holy sacrament of the Risen Lord's presence is the Bread of the Eucharist. It is possible to believe in this sacramental divine presence and at the same time to ignore what Jesus has spoken to us of his presence in the least of his brothers and sisters. It might give us pause to note that the criterion of final judgment that Jesus tells us about is not whether we recognize his presence in the Eucharist, but whether we respond with compassion to his presence in the least of his brothers and sisters (Mt 25:31-46).

Celebrating the Year of St. Paul

"Let us not ask ourselves only: who was Paul? Let us ask ourselves above all: who is Paul? What does he say to me? [...] In the Letter to the Galatians, St Paul gives a very personal profession of faith in which he opens his heart to readers of all times and reveals what was the most intimate drive of his life. "I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me" (Gal 2: 20). All Paul's actions begin from this centre. His faith is the experience of being loved by Jesus Christ in a very personal way. It is awareness of the fact that Christ did not face death for something anonymous but rather for love of him - of Paul - and that, as the Risen One, he still loves him; in other words, Christ gave himself for him. Paul's faith is being struck by the love of Jesus Christ, a love that overwhelms him to his depths and transforms him. His faith is not a theory, an opinion about God and the world. His faith is the impact of God's love in his heart. Thus, this same faith was love for Jesus Christ."

Homily of his Holiness Benedict XVI, June 28, 2008

<p align="center">Staff</p> <p>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 Sr. Su Fern Khoo VDMF (415) 573-9062 RCIC: Kathy Sanford 650) 738-0646 RCIA & Music: Suzanne Hockel (415) 826-6834 STM School: Principal, Joe Elsbernd (415) 337-0100</p>	<p align="center"><u>This Week's Parish Events</u></p> <p align="center">Tue., Mar 17 rd Legion of Mary, Scanlan Hall, 6:30 pm Communion & Liberation, Scanlan Hall, 8:00 pm</p> <p align="center">Wed., Mar 18th — Brazilian Choir Practice, Church 7pm Baptism preparation class , Scanlan Hall, 6:30PM</p> <p align="center">Thur., Mar 19th Feast of St. Joseph. Special Mass at 8pm</p> <p align="center">Fri., Mar 20th — Stations of the Cross, Church, 7 pm</p> <p align="center">Sat., Mar 21th— Bible Study & Prayer Group Alma Via, 7 pm.</p> <p align="center">Campus Ministry <i>Regular meeting: Thur 7:00pm at Burk Hall 252</i> Busy Student Retreat - Preparation for Easter, <i>for more info contact Sr. Su</i></p>	<p align="center">MASS SCHEDULE</p> <p align="center">Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 PM</p> <p align="center">Sunday 8:00 AM Portuguese/Brazilian; 10:00 AM English 11:45 AM Arabic; 8:00 PM English</p> <p align="center">Weekdays: 8:30 AM (Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat.); 5:30 PM (Tue., Thu.)</p> <p align="center">Holy Days: 8:30 AM & 8:00 PM</p> <p align="center">First Saturdays: 10:00 AM Burmese</p> <p align="center">First Fridays: 8:30 AM; 7:00 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Followed by Mass for healing at 8:00 PM</p> <p>Sacrament of Baptism (infants): Parents and godparents must attend Baptism Preparation Class. Call the office for Schedule.</p> <p>Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sundays 9:30—9:45 AM; Saturday 4:30 PM. Any time upon request.</p> <p>Sacrament of Matrimony: Contact us at least 6 months prior to wedding date.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Funeral arrangements: Funeral Director should contact Parish Office.</p>
<p>For Children and Youth: Under 6 years old, STM offers a "Crying Room" where parents can follow Mass, while children play away from the community. Over 6 years old, they have the "Children Liturgy", RCIC and RCIA and FLA groups and Summer Camps</p> <p>For Adults: English Charismatic group, Sundays 6:00 PM young adults group (18-late 20's) 2nd and 4th Saturday 2:00-4:00 PM Arabic Youth groups, Fridays 6:30 PM Brazilian Charismatic group, Mondays 7:00 PM Burmese Youth group, Sundays 2:00 PM SFSU Campus ministry, Thursdays 7:00 PM (on Campus)</p> <p>For Families: Bible Study, Saturday at 7:00 PM Couple For Christ: Saturday 5:00 PM Legion of Mary, Communion Liberation, Perpetual Novena, Sto. Nino, Prince of Peace and Friday adorations</p>		

Regular Activities

Parish Council Liturgy Committee Legion of Mary Communion & Liberation Charismatic groups for different ethnics	To Be Announced As Announced Tuesday, 6:30 PM Tuesday, 7:30 PM See schedule	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
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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 container of 100% juice, 2 cans of vegetables, 1 canned meat, 1 bag of rice. No glass items, please. Thanks.

MASS INTENTIONS

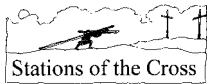
March 15—21, 2009

- 03/15 Sun 10:00am Guillerma Manrique†
8:00pm People of STM
- 03/16 Mon 8:30am Fr. Barry Freynet†
- 03/17 Tue 5:30pm Josephine Ryan†
- 03/18 Wed 8:30 am **Velez family. Sp.int**
- 03/19 Thu 5:30pm Pacita Tañedo sp int.
- 03/20 Fri 8:30am Tan Eng Leong †
- 03/21 Sat 8:30am Fr. Barry Freynet†
5:00pm Rhona Palencia†

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

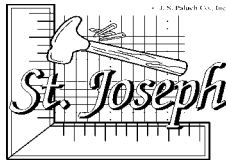
ANNOUNCEMENTS

* During Lent, **The Holy Land Museum & the Exhibit of The Holy Shroud** are opened Monday through Friday 9:30 AM—4:30 PM.



* Please note that we will pray the **Stations of the Cross** at 7 pm every Friday during Lent. Come and join us!

* **Feast of St. Joseph.** There will be a special Mass at 8pm on March 19th to observe the feast of St. Joseph. **Mass of 5:30 will be at 8:00 PM in stead**



* **Fill St. Patrick and St. Joseph Table.** We would like to mark the feast of St. Patrick (March 17) and St. Joseph (March 19) this year with a joint observance on March 21. This will be a potluck dinner, so please bring a favorite dish to share. Let us all take a break from Lent on this one March Saturday, March 21st and come together to honor St. Patrick, our beloved city's patron saint, and St. Joseph, every family's model of moral strength and quiet authority.

* **Abstinence.** Please be reminded that every Friday of Lent everyone 14 years or older is bound to abstain from meat. *In the spirit of penance, give up that steak & give \$ to the poor.*

* Try to decide to **come mass during LENT**, It is the time that the Lord is calling you to repent and renew the life of your dear family.



* **QoP Donation.** Please print up a coupon from our website before going to have your taxes done by H&R Block and hand it to your tax preparer and \$25 will be donated to our Queen of Peace Foundation. Q of P Foundation was set up to help people in need. Every little bit helps and this will mean a lot to those we help. Any H&R Block office will take the coupon, but one of our parishioners, Robert Archer works at 5109 Mission Street at Geneva and would be more than happy to serve you. His phone number: 415 334 4362 ext. 229.

* **International Food Festival.** Volunteers are needed for this year's International Food Festival. Planning meetings had already started Please call the office for meeting times and other information if you can help. Your assistance and participation in this event will be very much appreciated. Hope to hear from you soon.

* Jesus brings new life, and He can bring a new exciting **life into our marriage.** Plan to enrich your marriage by attending the next Worldwide. Marriage Encounter Weekend. Go to sf.lovemoredeeply.org or call Paul & Yvonne at 650-366-7093. **Next SF-WWME Weekend: May 1-3 San Mateo**



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, Rosauro Tan, Jean Lu, Bridget Suazon, Rhona Palencia and for all who are ill in our parish.

All the deceased from our parish Allan Patrick Lubiano, Annie Rendon and Naimeh Danfoura.

Weekly Offering



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**Weekend of 03/08/09:
\$ 5348.70
Second Collection: \$ 909.83
This week's second collection is for the Catholic Relief Service.**



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 use 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