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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

The Most Holy Trinity

June 7th, 2009

“And know I will be with you always till the end of time” Matt 28, 20

The Trinity: Intimacy and Transcendence

Arians are all around us, and among us, and within us. They are the intellectually arrogant in the academia. They attempt to rewrite history. They declare that Jesus was just a man, a good man, yes, but just a man. The Trinity is too much for them. Jesus is too much for them.

Where did this word *Arian* come from? Well, in the fourth century of the Church, Arius, a priest of Alexandria, Egypt, declared that Jesus was not the Son of God. His heresy made Christianity easier to accept. People did not have to suspend their rationality to accept that which was beyond their abilities. The laws of Christianity were now just a matter of advice, not the New Law of God. Arianism grew so popular that, according to some historians, over two thirds of Christians went over to this heresy. But the Power of God, the Holy Spirit, prevailed and through various councils of the Church, the belief in the Trinity was codified into the formula we continue to use: “There is one God, who has three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Each person is God, yet there is still only one God.”

Belief in the Trinity was not created by the early councils of the Church. It was given to us by God himself. It is in the Bible. The Old Testament points to the Trinity speaking about the Eternal Son who will come and suffer for the forgiveness of sins, *Isaiah*, and who will judge the world, *Daniel*, and whose Spirit will rest upon us, *Ezekiel*. Look at the New Testament. Start with the records of Christmas. We call these the Infancy Narratives. The Infancy Narratives in the *Gospels of Matthew and Luke* are written to emphasize that Jesus is the Son of God and Son of Mary. Joseph was his foster father. An even deeper understanding of the mystery of Jesus presented in the *Gospel of John*. The theme of this gospel is John 3:16: *God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life*. The beginning of the *Gospel of John*, usually called the Prologue, tells us about the Eternal Word of God who became flesh and dwelt among us. The existence and the power of the Holy Spirit are also experienced throughout the New Testament, particularly in the *Gospels of Luke and John* and the writings of St. Paul. The Holy Spirit continues to be experienced in the Church.

Belief in the Trinity demands acknowledging God’s infinite superiority in all areas including our rationality. Adam and Eve refused to do that. They pushed God aside, turned away from life and gave us death. The Arians, including the modern day arians of the academia, do not have the humility to admit that man’s knowledge of the Divine is limited by the finite capability of the human mind. They do not have the humility to enter into mystery, the mystery of God. I like to consider it this way: an eight year old cannot understand calculus. He or she is incapable of that form of understanding. But calculus still exists. Most of our top high school students could not come to the theory of relativity, but it is a valid theory. Because some knowledge is beyond us does not mean that it doesn’t exist. What does exist is the pride and arrogance we all have to refuse to go beyond the limits of our minds and accept God’s mysteries. The trouble is that we humans are proud. We would like to determine who God is, what He should be like, etc. We try to fit him into our mental constructs. In doing so, we are refusing to enter into mystery.

Dom Julian, a Benedictine monk, wrote, “All that matters is that God is God, and I, I am only I.”

Within the Mystery of the Trinity dwells the wonderful belief that God is both close to us and beyond us, Intimate and Transcendent. The Eternal Creator of the universe shocked us by establishing an intimate relationship with us. At baptism we receive His Life. Our bodies are sacred, holy, because we are the dwelling place of God. My favorite verse in Scripture is the concluding verse of the *Gospel of Matthew* and of our Gospel for this Sunday: “Know that I am with you always until the end of time.”

—Fr. Joseph Pellegrino, *jspaluch, co*

Celebrating the Year of St. Paul

The "New Characteristics" of Paul the Christian

Paul's experience of the Spirit as the "Spirit of Christ reborn in him" distinguishes his life as a Christian from his life as a Hebrew. The Spirit brings about the indwelling of Christ in us and also causes his Word to dwell in us. Present in the life of the Christian, the Spirit helps that person to understand Jesus and everything that refers to him, helping him/her to live like Jesus. It is the Spirit who "carves Jesus" on our hearts so that we become "visible letters," that is, "the word of God," which we must then communicate to others. It is interesting to observe that Paul does not list among the rules of the Christian life the command to "read the Scriptures." Instead, he says: "Listen to the Spirit" (cf. 1 Thes. 5:13). In revealing the meaning of the Word that is Jesus, the Spirit distinguishes between the words of the Christian and the words of Jesus, rendering the divine message appropriate to the times.

www.daughtersofstpaul.com

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

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

This week's

Parish Events

Tue., June 9th

Legion of Mary,

Scanlan Hall, 6:30 pm

Communion & Liberation,

Scanlan Hall, 8:00 pm

Wednesday, June 10th

Last day of school (early dismissal)

International Food Festival Committee

Scanlan Hall, 7:00 pm

Saturday, June 13th

Bible Study Group,

Alma Via, 7:00 PM

Campus Ministry

SFSU Campus Ministry wishes all students a happy vacation. If you are in the area, stay tuned for upcoming activities this summer!

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.

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, we have the "Children's Liturgy", RCIC and RCIA and FLA groups and Summer Camps

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 Group, 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) *[Pls call the office for contact numbers.]*

For Families: Bible Study, Saturday at 7:00 PM; Couples For Christ: Saturday 5:00 PM; Legion of Mary, Communion & Liberation, Perpetual Novena to the Sto. Nino; Prince of Peace and Friday adoration

Holy Land Museum & Shroud of Turin Exhibit

Open 9-4:30 Monday-Friday

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, 8:00 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

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 box of cereal, 1 can of fruit, 1 canned meat or tuna, 1 box of granola bars/healthy snack item. Pls., No glass items. Thanks.



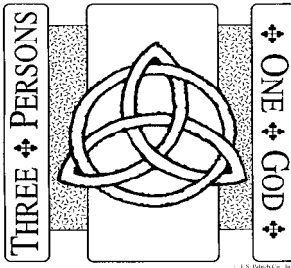
***Golf Tournament.** Seven days to the golf tournament! It will be on June 15th at the Round Hill Golf Club in San Ramon. Please call Bernard at (650) 576-4767 to make your reservations.



***Philippine Independence Day June 13.** Please join the Filipino-American community at STM to celebrate Philippine independence on June 13 at 7pm in Scanlan Hall. It is going to be a potluck dinner with a presentation of folk songs & dances, and a showing of the life story of the Philippine National Hero, Jose Rizal. Everyone is invited.

***The Ramallah Club.** The Annual Convention of the American Federation of Ramallah, Palestine will be hosted by the Ramallah Club of San Francisco this year. Location will be the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Burlingame, from June 24-28. Please call Samir Totah at (510) 233-1908 or email him at Samirtotah@sbcglobal.net for more info.

***Holy Land Pilgrimage.** Please check our website (www.stmchurch.org) for more information on our Holy Land Pilgrimage on October 21 to November 4, 2009. To sign up or for more details, call Claudia Devaux at (805) 544-9088. Space is limited, so call soon.



***Sun - n - Fun.** Summer Day Camp for grammar school children: STM Carroll Hall, June 22- July 3, 2009. Monday to Friday, 7:30am to 3:30pm. For more info: call Abbie Nepomuceno at 415-297-4509 or email: basnepo@comcast.net and/or check www.stmchurch.com

School News

*To those in 7th & lower grades: Have a safe & fun summer. Read a few books and 'exercise' the brain so it's active & sharp.

Others

***Immaculate Heart Radio.** On-Air Pledge Drive will be on Wednesday, June 17 to the 19th, from 6 am to 6 pm each day at Immaculate Heart Radio's Live Studio located at Mater Dolorosa School in So. San Francisco. Meet Catholic Radio Personalities, be interviewed live on the radio, pray the Rosary with the staff, participate in Adoration, enjoy fellowship with Catholics in your area, talk with listeners and witness their testimonies, and experience the joy and peace that comes from sharing your Catholic Faith. Refreshments are served all day. Free Giveaways!! Spaces are limited — sign-up for any time stated above. Call Debora Heinrichs at 916-535-0500 ext. 221 or email her: dheinrichs@ihradio.org.

MASS INTENTIONS June 7 — June 13, 2009

06/07 Sun 10:00am People of the Parish
8:00pm Salud & Cesario Mendoza †
06/08 Mon 8:30am Casillas Unborn Child †
06/09 Tue 5:30pm Dorina Romasanta †
06/10 Wed 8:30am Casillas Unborn Child †
06/11 Thu 5:30pm Sara & Collin F. Noguera (hlg)
06/12 Fri 8:30 am Joan Carew †
8:00pm Helen Sanchez (Sp. Int.)
06/13 Sat 8:30 am Casillas Unborn Child †
5:00 pm Special Intention
*Please call the office to schedule your Mass.
Attending the Mass you offer is appreciated.*



All the sick people in our parish, especially Christian Yousef, Lina Subilla, Jane Boyle, 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 Sazon, Rhona Palencia, Annika de Leon and for all who are ill in our parish.

All the deceased in our parish especially Carmen Medina, Manuel Veloso & Kareem Oweis.

Weekly Offering



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Weekend of May 31, 2009
\$3213.25
2nd Collection for Needy:
\$738.40

This week's second collection is for **tithing**. Please be generous.

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