



## SAINT THOMAS MORE CHURCH CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY

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[www.stmchurch.com](http://www.stmchurch.com)

### 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 21st, 2009

**"Who then is this whom even wind and sea obey?" — Mk 4:41**

Storms or no storms, in tempest and in peace, we must live by faith. The greatest test of faith is the confidence of belief in God through the fear brought by the terrors of darkness and the tempests of temptation. Faith is given by God precisely to sustain our weakness by divine power through the difficulties life will bring.

"Now, however, 'we walk by faith, not by sight'; (2 *Corinthians* 5:7) we perceive God as 'in a mirror, dimly' and only 'in part.' (1 *Corinthians* 13:12) Even though enlightened by him in whom it believes, faith is often lived in darkness and can be put to the test. The world we live in often seems very far from the one promised us by faith. Our experiences of evil and suffering, injustice, and death, seem to contradict the Good News; they can shake our faith and become a temptation against it." (CCC 164) "Perfect faith casts out all fear." The saints and martyrs, the witnesses, including the Apostles who feared the storm and the seas, are the ones to whom we look to learn how to be men and women of faith, even while enduring the temptations and doubts that flesh is heir to.

"It is then that we must turn to the witnesses of faith: to Abraham, who 'in hope...believed against hope'; (*Romans* 4:18) to the Virgin Mary, who, in 'her pilgrimage of faith,' walked into the 'night of faith' (*Lumen Gentium* 58; John Paul II, *Redemptoris Mater* 18) in sharing the darkness of her son's suffering and death; and to so many others: 'Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.' (*Hebrews* 12:1-2)" (CCC 165)

Faith is the gift of God, and through this virtue he enables us to call upon him in every circumstance, from desperation to joy, in tragedies and in blessings. Christ commanded us to "pray always." Prayer is the necessary means of union with God in every circumstance: "It is always possible to pray: The time of the Christian is that of the risen Christ who is with us always, no matter what tempests may arise. (Cf. *Matthew* 28:20; *Luke* 8:24) Our time is in the hands of God: 'It is possible to offer fervent prayer even while walking in public or strolling alone, or seated in your shop,...while buying or selling,...or even while cooking.' (St. John Chrysostom, *Ecloga de oratione* 2: PG 63, 585)" (CCC 2743) "Prayer is a vital necessity. Proof from the contrary is no less convincing: if we do not allow the Spirit to lead us, we fall back into the slavery of sin. (Cf. *Galatians* 5:16-25) How can the Holy Spirit be our life if our heart is far from him? 'Nothing is equal to prayer; for what is impossible it makes possible, what is difficult, easy...For it is impossible, utterly impossible, for the man who prays eagerly and invokes God ceaselessly ever to sin.' (St. John Chrysostom, *De Anna* 4, 5: PG 54, 666) 'Those who pray are certainly saved; those who do not pray are certainly damned.' (St. Alphonsus Ligouri, *Del gran mezzo della preghiera*.)

Prayer and Christian life are inseparable, for they concern the same love and the same renunciation, proceeding from love; the same filial and loving conformity with the Father's plan of love; the same transforming union in the Holy Spirit who conforms us more and more to Christ Jesus; the same love for all men, the love with which Jesus has loved us. 'Whatever you ask the Father in my name, he [will] give it to you. This I command you, to love one another.' (Origen, *De orat.* 12:PG 11, 452C)" (CCC 2744)

The greatest prayer, the sacramental liturgy of the Church, is the place where prayer and love meet perfectly. "In the sacramental liturgy of the Church, the mission of Christ and of the Holy Spirit proclaims, makes present, and communicates the mystery of salvation, which is continued in the heart that prays. The spiritual writers sometimes compare the heart to an altar. Prayer internalizes and assimilates the liturgy during and after its celebration. Even when it is lived out 'in secret,' (Cf. *Matthew* 6:6) prayer is always prayer of the Church; it is a communion with the Holy Trinity. (*GILH* 9)" (CCC 2655)

— fr. Cusick, jspaluch co., inc.

**Celebrating the Year of St. Paul**

**First Reading of this Sunday's Mass**

*Brothers and sisters: The love of Christ impels us, once we have come to the conviction that one died for all; therefore, all have died. He indeed died for all, so that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised. Consequently, from now on we regard no one according to the flesh; even if we once knew Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know him so no longer. So whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come.*  
**2 Corinthians 5 14-17**

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| <p align="center"><b>Staff</b></p> <p><b>Pastor: Church &amp; School</b><br/>         Msgr: Labib Kobti<br/> <b>Parochial Vicar:</b><br/>         Fr Andrew Johnson<br/> <b>Priest Brazilian Community</b><br/>         Fr. Sergio da Silva,<br/>         (415) 454-8141<br/> <b>Deacon:</b><br/>         Khaled Abu Shaer<br/> <b>Admin Assistant:</b><br/>         Elvira Garcia<br/> <b>Receptionist:</b><br/>         Sr Teresa Malave, VDMF<br/> <b>Campus Ministry:</b><br/>         Verbum Dei Sisters<br/>         Sr. Su Fern Khoo, VDMF<br/>         (415) 573-9062<br/> <b>RCIC:</b><br/> <b>Kathy Sanford</b><br/>         650) 738-0646<br/> <b>RCIA &amp; Music:</b><br/> <b>Suzanne Hockel</b><br/>         (415) 826-6834<br/> <b>STM School:</b><br/> <b>Principal, Joe Elsbernd</b><br/>         (415) 337-0100</p>   | <p align="center"><u>This Week's</u><br/> <b>Parish Events</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Tue. June 23rd</b><br/> <b>Legion of Mary,</b><br/>         Scanlan Hall, 6:30 pm<br/> <b>Communion &amp; Liberation,</b><br/>         Scanlan Hall, 8 pm</p> <p align="center"><b>Wednesday, June 24th</b><br/> <b>International Food</b><br/> <b>Festival Meeting</b><br/>         Scanlan Hall, 7 pm</p> <p align="center"><b>Thursday, June 25th</b><br/> <b>Young Adult Group ,</b><br/>         Scanlan Hall, 5:30-9pm</p> <p align="center"><b>Friday, June 26th,</b><br/> <b>Blessed Sacrament Prayer Service</b><br/>         7:30pm in Church</p> <p align="center"><b>Saturday, June 27th</b><br/> <b>Bible Study Group,</b><br/>         Alma Via, 7:00 PM</p> | <p align="center"><b>SCHEDULE</b></p> <p><b>Saturday Vigil Mass:</b> 5:00 PM</p> <p align="center"><b>Sunday</b><br/>         8:00 AM Portuguese/Brazilian;<br/>         10:00 AM English<br/>         11:45 AM Arabic;<br/>         8:00 PM English</p> <p align="center"><b>Weekdays:</b><br/>         8:30 AM<br/>         (Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat.);<br/>         5:30 PM (Tue., Thu.)</p> <p align="center"><b>Holy Days:</b><br/>         8:30 AM &amp; 8:00 PM</p> <p align="center"><b>First Saturdays:</b><br/>         10:00 AM Burmese</p> <p align="center"><b>First Fridays:</b><br/>         8:30 AM<br/> <b>7:00 PM</b> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament<br/>         Followed by Mass for healing at <b>8:00 PM</b></p> <p><b>Sacrament of Baptism (infants):</b> Parents and godparents must attend Baptism Preparation Class. Call the office for Schedule.</p> <p><b>Sacrament of Reconciliation:</b> Sundays 9:30—9:45 AM; Saturday 4:30 PM. Any time upon request.</p> <p><b>Sacrament of Matrimony:</b> Contact us at least 6 months prior to wedding date.</p> <p><b>Communion to the homebound and the ill:</b> 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><b>Anointing of the Sick:</b> Any time upon request. If a parishioner is seriously ill at home, please inform the parish office regarding a visit for anointing.</p> <p><b>Funeral arrangements:</b> Funeral Director should contact Parish Office.</p> |
| <p><b>For Children and Youth:</b> 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</p> <p><b>For Adults:</b> English Charismatic group, Sundays 6:00 PM: St. Benedict's 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) <i>[Pls call the office for contact numbers.]</i></p> <p><b>For Families:</b> Bible Study, Saturday at 7:00 PM; Couples For Christ: Saturday 5:00 PM; Legion of Mary, Communion &amp; Liberation, Perpetual Novena to the Sto. Nino; Prince of Peace and Friday adoration</p> <p align="center"><b>Holy Land Museum &amp; Shroud of Turin Exhibit</b><br/> <b>Open 9-4:30 Monday-Friday</b></p> |  |   |

**Regular Activities**

|  |                  |                             |                            |
|--|------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Parish Council                           | To Be Announced  | Bible Study & Prayer        | Saturday, 7 PM at Alma Via |
| Liturgy Committee                        | As Announced     | AACC Youth Group            | Friday, 6:00 PM            |
| Legion of Mary                           | Tuesday, 6:30 PM | Perpetual Novena: Sto. Nino | Last Friday, 7 PM          |
| Communion & Liberation                   | Tuesday, 8:00 PM | Prince of Peace             | Friday, 8:30 PM            |
| Charismatic groups for different ethnics | See schedule     | FLA Youth Group             | 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 can of vegetables, 1 can of fruit, 1 canned meat or tuna, 1 box of granola bars/healthy snack item. Pls., no glass items. Thanks.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

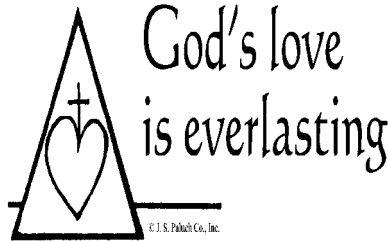
**\*Blessed Sacrament Prayer Service.** Friday, June 26, at 7:30 pm, we will have a special Prayer Service for the Blessed Sacrament. Please come to church and join us in song and prayer by candlelight that night.

**\*Pauline Year.** On Saturday, June 27, our parish will mark the end of the Pauline Year (June 29th) with a potluck dinner in Carroll Hall immediately following the 5 PM Mass. Everyone is invited, please bring a dish to share.

**\*Heads up.** Our parish spiritual retreat has been scheduled for Saturday, July 18. Please clear your calendar and spend a day of prayer with the rest of our parish family right here at STM.

**\*Golf Tournament.** Thank you to everyone who helped, in one way or another, to make our golf tournament a success. Thanks to you it was a memorable event, and we hope to do one even better next year.

**\*Holy Land Pilgrimage.** Please check our website ([www.stmchurch.org](http://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.



**\*The Ramallah Club.** The Annual Convention of the American Federation of Ramallah, Palestine is happening from June 24-28 in the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Burlingame. The SF Chapter is hosting it this year. Call Samir Totah at (510) 233-1908 or email him at [Samirtotah@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Samirtotah@sbcglobal.net) for tickets and for more information.

**\*Year of Priests.** Pope Benedict has designated June 19, 2009 to June 19, 2010 the Year of the Priest. Let's pray that they be given the strength and perseverance so crucial in their vocation, not only for our STM priests, but also for all priests of the Archdiocese, and around the world.

## Campus Ministry

**\*Hiking Retreat.** A one-day hiking retreat has been scheduled for Sunday, June 28, from 9 am to 6 pm. Please call Sister Su at (415) 573-9062 for more details.



## MASS INTENTIONS

**June 21st— June 27th, 2009**

6/21 Sun 10:00am People of the Parish  
8:00pm Matthew Sotto  
6/22 Mon 8:30am All Souls in Purgatory †  
6/23 Tue 5:30pm Johnny Cheong †  
6/24 Wed 8:30am Agriping & Joaquin Gonzalez †  
6/25Thu 5:30pm Marco Ocbena †  
6/26 Fri 8:30 am All Souls in Purgatory †  
6/27 Sat 8:30 am Laura & Mario Biagini†  
5:00 pm Carmello Mazza†

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



**All the sick people in our parish,** especially Joe Elsbernd, May Ann Cabrera, Christian Yousef, Lina Susbilla, 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, Rhona Palencia, Annika de Leon and for all who are ill in our parish.

All the deceased in our parish especially Georgette Bandak & Jane Boyle.

## Weekly Offering



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Weekend of June 14th, 2009

\$3,434

Next week's second collection is for **Peter's Pence**. [The fund used to finance the special projects of the Holy Father.] 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](mailto:stmchurch@aol.com)