

SAINT THOMAS MORE CHURCH CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY

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The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

December 27th, 2009

"Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed"

—1John 3:2a

What made the family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph holy was not that they were "perfect!" (What family would not be perfect who had a sinless mother and child as a part of it – and a foster father who was as sinless as one could possibly be – except for the original sin that he was born into the world with! What made this family holy was that *each member was completely and totally open to all of the gifts that God the Father had to offer them to live their earthly lives in accordance with his will!* And what made them holy and perfect was the fact that *they each did their God-given duty solely because they loved God the Father from the depths of their hearts – and willed never to do anything apart from that love and that will!*

This is where our family life – whether we are children of parents (living or deceased) or parents of children – can resemble that of the holy family! **We each can be open to all of the gifts God has to give us** (this is the gift-giving time of the year – have we remembered to give God the gift of ourselves for Christmas, and to receive what he has specially chosen for us this year?); and **we can resolve to do God's will, live a holy family life because we love God the Father with all of our hearts.** Thus will our family life be "holy and perfect in the sight of God" while on the surface, and from a stranger's point of view – it may look anything but holy and perfect! In the first reading today from the Book of Sirach we are reminded that family members *ought to take care of one another* – children by parents when they are young, parents by children when they are old. *We ought always to honor and respect one another as family members!*

St. Paul tells the Colossians an amazing secret to successful family life: **let it resemble the love that God the Father has for all his people: let it resemble the love that Christ the Bridegroom has for his Bride the Church (us).** Jesus loved the Church (us) so much that he laid down his life for her. He sacrificed for her. He nurtured her tenderly. He took care of her. He, by baptism, bore new children with her. This is exactly how *husbands are meant to love their wives*, and the *submission* of which St. Paul speaks means nothing less than the wife, the bride, *allowing the husband to love her thusly!* To dote over her, to protect her, to give his life in many ways for her – even to the point of death – this is the duty of the husband, after the example of Christ! Both roles involve self-donation and mutual giving! Family life borne of mutual respect, mutual friendship, mutual love, mutual caring, mutual sacrifice will always - to be authentic and genuine - be a *free gift* of members to one another; it will be *total and complete*, needing no other source of compensation; it will be *faithful and fruitful* and creative of a variety of manifestations of more and more of God's gifts – to be used at the service of one another! **It is never too late** to begin to have a more pure, a more holy, a more perfect family life. It simply takes *prayer* to the Holy Spirit for guidance and power needed; the *decision* to do so, and then *taking the first step* of giving ourselves freely to those who are nearest and dearest to us – our families! *Let the peace of Christ control our hearts; let the word of Christ dwell in us richly- and we will know what to do; we will always know what to do!*

Father Bill Dinga

Prayer for Families

*Heavenly Father, most good and gracious God, sustain our family in your love. Make it a place where holiness can abound. Help us to learn to be like Jesus in all our actions. Aid our family to imitate the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Help us to learn from the good example of others and to give good example to others. Assist us in learning to bear our pain and suffering as Jesus did. Aid us in overcoming difficulties and carrying our crosses. Help our family life to lead only to Jesus, the source of true happiness. Please give wholesome habits to our family. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **AMEN.***

Staff

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This Week's Events

Tue. Dec 29th

Legion of Mary,

Scanlan Hall, 6:00 pm

Communion & Liberation,

Scanlan Hall, 8 pm

Thurs Dec 31st

STM New Year Party

7pm in Carroll Hall

Friday. Jan 1st, 2010

First Friday Adoration at 7pm & Healing Mass 8pm

Sat. Jan 2nd

Burmese Mass at 10am

followed by fellowship in Scanlan Hall

RCIC Classes , 9am

in Flower Sacristy

Bible Study Group

(will resume on Jan 2nd, 2010)



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; 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) [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.

Queenofpeacefoundation.org, an independent Foundation created to serve the needy.

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
Third 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 pack of pasta, 1 can of beef or chicken, 1 can of tomato sauce, 1 can of fruit or fruit juice. Pls., no glass items. Thanks.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

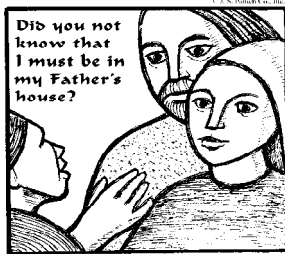
***Solemnity of Mary.** Archbishop Niederauer has granted a dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Friday, January 1, 2010, the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, in our Archdiocese. In other words, **this is not a holy day of obligation**, although it remains a special day of prayer for peace.

***Schedules.** We are now back to our regular Mass schedule. The office will be closed on December 31st and January 1st and will be back to regular office hours on January 4th. We hope everyone had a wonderful celebration of the birth of Jesus. Happy Feast of the Holy Family as well!

***First Friday.** Begin the New Year 2010 close to the heart of Jesus by coming to our **First Friday Adoration** of the Blessed Sacrament and **Healing Mass** on Fri Jan 1st. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament starts at **7pm** followed by Mass at **8pm**.



***Thanks.** Our deepest appreciation and thanks to all who worked to make our International Christmas Novena the success that they were. The commitment of the volunteers, the joy with which they all served, the getting together of all our ethnic communities, all that was wonderful to watch. Thanks again & blessings to all.



STM Mission Statement
"We are a diverse Eucharistic family united in Jesus Christ and His Church. We accomplish our mission to spread the message of God's love through the gifts of the Holy Spirit who guides and inspires us and with the prayers of our Blessed Mother, Mary."

New Year's Eve Family Party



*We will welcome the New Year 2010 as a parish family potluck celebration, Thurs. Dec 31st, at 7:00 PM – 1:00 AM at Carroll Hall. All are welcome to enjoy the balloons coming from above, the beauty of music and the smile of many families who prefer a Church environment for their children to welcome the New Year! Please call either Maria at (650) 296-0376 or Lala at (650) 296-0509 for more information and details.

***Walk for Life-West Coast 2010!** Join the 6th annual pro life walk on Sat Jan 23rd, to peacefully proclaim our message that abortion hurts women & we all deserve better. To volunteer or arrange buses, visit www.walkforlifewc.com or contact us at (415) 586-1576, or email info@walkforlifewc.com.

MASS INTENTIONS

Dec 27th — Jan 2nd, 2010

- 12/27 Sun 10:00am Kathleen Savage †
8:00pm People of STM
- 12/ 28 Mon 8:30am Souls in Purgatory †
- 12/ 29 Tue 5:30am Special Intention
- 12/ 30 Wed 8:30am Rebecca Jaskela †
- 12/ 31 Thu 5:30pm Juanita Baker (Thanksg.)
- 1/ 01 Fri 8:30am Rhona Palencia (hlg)
8:00pm Special Intention
- 1/ 02 Sat 8:30 am Laura & Mario Biagini †
5:00 pm Benedict Aguas †

Attending the Mass you offer is appreciated.



All the sick people in our parish, to be read during Masses: especially Msgr. John Foudy, Isabelle Muzio, James Roach, Wilfredo Fernando, Rhona Palencia Jesus Uchi, Anthony Angeles, Tina Bish, Jeff Semelka, Anita Soliz, Cecilia Reyes, Brigit Suazon, Christian Yousef, Barbara Cunningham, Carmel Desmond, Gordon Lu, Ann, and for all who are ill in our parish.

Let us also pray for all the deceased in our parish.
(Please call the office for names of people we should pray for. To facilitate this process, names will also need to be taken off after 3 weeks, pls. call the office for names to be put back in. Thanks.)

Weekly Offering



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(Due to the Christmas Holiday, this bulletin is transmitted early. The total for Dec 20th, 24th, 25th, & 27th will appear in next week's bulletin)

Thank you for your Generosity!



REGISTRATION SLIP FOR ST. THOMAS MORE

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