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SAINT THOMAS MORE CHURCH CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY

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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."

www.stmchurch.com

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time August 29th, 2010

Jesus goes for a meal to the house of a leading Pharisee and as it says in the text, *they watched him closely*. We know quite well that they were very suspicious of Jesus; they couldn't make him out and they wondered what his real purpose was. His every word and action, his very integrity, could be interpreted as a reproach to them and so they constantly watched looking for ways to trip him up. And of course we know the rest of the story. But the Pharisees weren't the only ones doing the watching that day. Jesus was doing quite a bit of watching himself, observing their behaviour, watching to see how they interacted with one another. He noticed how the Pharisees were very concerned with hierarchy and how they claimed the places of honour at the table. And so in the light of their behaviour he told them the famous parable of the man who claimed the highest place only to find himself humiliated when his host asked him make way for a more important guest. This was a very provocative thing for Jesus to do. It certainly wasn't very polite and I am certain that his host was quite insulted especially when Jesus went on to say that he should have invited the poor, crippled and lame rather than these well-off guests who would be obliged to repay him in turn.

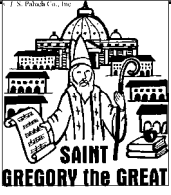
Politeness is important but it is not as important as the Gospel message. And these Pharisees weren't getting the point of Jesus' preaching so we can imagine that he decides to tell them this parable and risk their wrath only hoping that at least some of them will get the point. And the point is that in the Kingdom of heaven there are no privileged guests. God is quite indiscriminate in his welcome. His door is open to all. Now this is quite a radical message. The Pharisees, and I guess most of us too, tend to believe that God distributes his rewards on the basis of merit.

Coming to mass every Sunday takes quite a bit of effort, it's a big sacrifice—though once you get into the routine it's not so bad. And we quite often find ourselves thinking that even if we are a bit mean and underhand in other areas of life then God will compensate us because we have gone to mass every Sunday (almost) for our three score years and ten. ... The problem is the constant temptation to see these things in terms of payment, in terms of the brownie-point system of getting to heaven, in terms of earning one's way through the pearly gates. It's an awful easy mistake to make. And it is but a small step from there to the sin of pride which is assuming that I am of more merit than the other. After all, I am a Catholic, I go to mass, I keep the commandments, I give to charity, and I do all kinds of other things to help others therefore I ought get into heaven. While the unbelieving and mean old sinner down the road is left out in the cold. But this is not the way God works. ... What we have been given is the privilege of serving God in a special way as servants of his Gospel. This is nothing we have earned because of any special merit or talent on our part. We have been invited by Almighty God to proclaim the Gospel of love and to worship him through the sacraments Christ instituted.

The fact that we take up this invitation is nothing out of the ordinary; it is simply what we ought to do. Now this invitation is given not only to us but to the whole world. The fact that so few take up this offer ought not to cause us to adversely judge the others. There may be all kinds of reasons; they did not hear this invitation clearly, there were justified obstacles in the way, and so on. On the other hand the group that Jesus marks out for special attention is the poor, the crippled, the lame and the blind. He is often to be found in their company and he showers his love and attention on them and brings them healing and comfort. The values of the Kingdom of God are clean contrary to the values of this world. Jesus certainly meets with the rich and powerful but he gives them a hard time because they are so slow to understand his message, they are so preoccupied with their own importance. But he also spends an equal amount of time with the poor and the weak. Because they have a better sense of their position in relation to others he encourages them and does what he can to affirm them. We only have to think of the words of the Beatitudes to realize this.

We are Christ's disciples in the world. Just like Peter and James and John and the others we did nothing to merit the call of God. We cannot even penetrate the reasons why God might have chosen us. But the simple fact is we have been given this privileged task and our job is to get on with it. So let us leave all our other preoccupations behind and look to the lives of the Apostles as examples for us to follow. Let's forget all about position and favor and self-importance and just single-mindedly get on with the job of an Apostle and leave everything else up to him who is the sole judge and Lord of all.

Father Alex McAllister SDS



Patron of teachers, St. Gregory was the son of Gordianus, a wealthy senator, who later renounced the world and became one of the seven deacons of Rome. After the death of his father, he built six monasteries in Sicily and founded a seventh in his own house in Rome, which became the Benedictine Monastery of St. Andrew. Here, he himself assumed the monastic habit in 575, at the age of thirty-five. After the death of Pelagius, St. Gregory was chosen Pope by the unanimous consent of priests and people. Gregory worked hard to alleviate the suffering of the people, finding shelter and food for refugees from the Lombard invaders as well as plague and flood victims, and using revenues from Church property to aid the poor and the starved. He also centralized the papacy's administrative machinery and fought corruption and negligence. His zeal extended over the entire known world, he was in contact with all the Churches of Christendom and, in spite of his bodily sufferings, and innumerable labors, he found time to compose a great number of works. He is known above all for his contributions to the Liturgy of the Mass and Office. He is one of the four great Doctors of the Latin Church. (from: http://www.catholic.org/saints/f_day/aug.php & http://historymedren.about.com/od/popegregoryi/a/bio_gregory1.htm)

Staff

Pastor: Church & School

Msgr: Labib Kobti

Parochial Vicars

Fr Youssef Keikati

Fr Andrew Johnson

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Khaled Abu Shaer

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RCIA & Music:

Suzanne Hockel

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STM School:

(415) 337-0100

This Week's Events

Mon. August 30th

Charismatic Prayer Group:

Brazilian Community

7:00 PM-9:00 PM

Tue. August 31st

Legion of Mary,

Scanlan Hall 6:00 PM

Communion & Liberation,

Scanlan Hall 8:00 PM

Thur. September 2nd

Liturgy Committee Meeting

Scanlan Hall, 7:30 PM-9:00 PM

Fri. September 3rd

AACC Youth Group

Scanlan Hall, 6:30pm

Prince of Peace

Scanlan Hall 8:30pm

Sat. September 4th

SBYAG meeting, Scanlan Hall 1:00pm

Bible Study Group, Alma Via 7:00pm

Couples for Christ, Scanlan Hall 6:00pm

Sun. September 5th

Charismatic Prayer Group in English

Scanlan Hall 6:00pm

SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 PM, English

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 Fridays: 8:30 AM Mass

7:00 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Followed by Mass for healing at **8:00 PM**

First Saturdays: 10 AM Burmese Mass

First Sundays: 5:30 PM Tagalog Mass

Sacrament of Baptism (infants): Parents should be registered in the parish. 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: Registered couples contact us at least 6 months prior to wedding date.

Communion to the homebound and the ill: Anyone who is ill and would like to receive Communion 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 2 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 6:00 PM; Legion of Mary; Communion & Liberation; Perpetual Novena to the Sto. Nino; Prince of Peace and Friday adoration, Knights of Columbus, **Holy Land Institute.org**, Pilgrimage ministry. **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 Thu, 2nd & 4th Sat, 7 PM

Full Plate Program: Thanks for your support of this program. Pls. bring your donations & place them in the green bins at the vestibule. Menu items: 1 bag of pasta, 1 can of tuna, 1 can of condensed cream of mushroom soup, 1 can of fruit . No glass items, please. Thanks.

***International Food Festival** is on **Sunday September 26th. Please call to volunteer** and come to the meetings on Wednesdays at 7:30 Pm at Scanlan Hall.

*** STM Golf Tournament,** limited to the first 72 player who call (650) 892-2890, this year will be at Round Hill Country Club in Alamo, on Monday October 18th, 2010.

Ethnic Communities News

***All Ethnic Communities:** Sister Maria Hsu, Ethnic Communities Director is asking for 2 representatives from each ethnic group at STM at the **Episcopal Ordination of Bishop Robert Mc Elroy.** Please, remember that **Everybody is invited** for the Episcopal Ordination Tuesday, September 7th, at 2 PM at the Cathedral.

***Brazilian Community:**
O grupo de oração Vida em Cristo tem encontros toda segunda-feira as 7:00pm no salão do cafezinho e esta promovendo a Segunda Gincana Bíblica para o mês de Setembro.

Campus Ministry:

Please join us at our **Open House Event, "Spaghetting to know you"**, Thursday, **Sept 2nd, 7pm** on campus. For info contact the Verbum Dei sisters at (415) 573-9062 for more details.

***STM SCHOOL:** We welcome the staff, the teachers and students **back to school!** We wish to all of them a very successful school year with the blessing of the Lord.

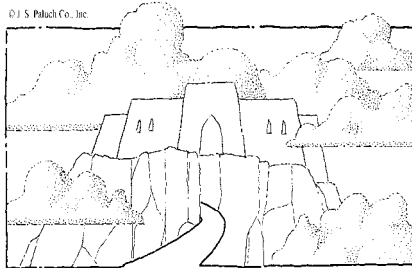


***Job Support Network:** We hope many found the first meeting informative and helpful in their job search. Future meeting date is **September 2, 7-8 PM**, already we know of 9 job openings in the City that we will share at the meeting.

***Holy Spirit Conference** sponsored by the Archdiocese of SF Charismatic Renewal will be on **September 17- 19, 2010.** It will be at the Archbishop Riordan High School, 175 Phelan Avenue, across from SF City College. Please check the bulletin boards for more details.

Sto Niño Healing Mass with

Father Jerome: On Tuesday, **September 21st** there will be a special rosary at 6pm , followed by a healing Mass celebrated by Fr. Jerome Moras at 6:30pm at STM church. Please bring your favorite dish to share in the reception after Mass!



MASS INTENTIONS
August 29nd—Sept 4th, 2010

- 8/29 Sun 10:00am Sabina Gonzales †
8:00pm Remedios Librojo †
- 8/30 Mon 8:30am Dexter A. Aquino †
- 8/31 Tue 5:30pm Paulino Gonzales †
- 9/01 Wed 8:30am Souls in Purgatory
- 9/02 Thu 5:30pm Joey Medina (Bday)
- 9/03 Fri 8:30am Pilar Obispo & Vicenta Ick †
- 9/04 Sat 8:30am Dexter A. Aquino †
5:00pm Rosalia Barbaran †

Attending the Mass you offer is appreciated.



All the sick people to be read during

Masses: Maritess Leonidas, Capone Garrick, Ghassan & Larry Totah, Joseph Ramos, Illuminada Sotto and for all who are ill & homebound in our parish.

We also pray for all the deceased in our parish. May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

(Please call the office for names of people we should pray for. To facilitate this process, names will be taken off after 3 weeks, everyone is welcome to call the office & let us know of people we should continue to pray for. Thanks.)

Weekly Offering



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Weekend of:
August 22nd, 2010
\$ 3,605.05

(This week's 2nd collection is for the poor of the parish)

Thank you for your generosity!
May the Lord & the Holy Mother bless you & your dear family.

REGISTRATION SLIP FOR ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH

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 and 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