



## 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."*

## Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, October 3rd, 2010

Today's first reading comes from the Prophet Habakkuk. Habakkuk lived around 650 years before the Lord. It was a time of violence. The Babylonians had conquered the Assyrians and were threatening or attacking the rest of the world, including the Kingdom of Judah. The Jews themselves were continually assaulting each other. Hatred and violence were seen as part of life, even accepted.

Habakkuk's society was not all that much different than ours, where violence and might are glorified and the weak are kept in their place. This is Respect Life Sunday. Our country allows unique lives to be murdered before birth. Even some Catholics who are adamantly opposed to abortion have no difficulty with capital punishment as though lowering ourselves to the level of the killer is acceptable. Violence is all around us. Our young people go to middle school, high school and college afraid that some of their classmates might turn on them, not just in the extreme as at Virginia Tech or Columbine High School, but even in the everyday playground scuffles where turf wars are fought not just with fists but with weapons.

Add to this the latest horrors that the media delights in shoving down our throats because, they claim I'm afraid correctly, that people really want to hear about and even see the gory details. Put it all together and People of God join Habakkuk and cry out, "How Long, O Lord, I cry out to you, 'Violence,' but you do not intervene." Destruction and violence are all before me. There is strife and clamorous discord.

Habakkuk's prayer is answered by the Lord. He is told to write this down, it is certainly going to happen, you can record it even before it takes place: *"The rash one has no integrity, but the just one, because of his faith, shall live."* What does that mean? Integrity is the strength of personality that allows someone to be wholesome, sincere, one with himself or herself, one with others, and one with God. The just one, because of his integrity and faith, lives with the Lord. Prisoner 16670 knew this message and lived it. He was a Franciscan Father named Maximilian Kolbe. Fr. Kolbe was a brilliant journalist in the Catholic Church in Poland during the 1920's and 30<sup>th</sup>. At one point, his publication, the *Knight of the Immaculata*, ran 750,000 copies a month. He traveled to Asia and founded monasteries in Japan and India. When he returned to Poland, he spoke out against the Nazis who had invaded his country and were rounding up the Jews. At one point his monastery housed 3,000 Polish refugees, two thirds of them Jews hiding from the Nazis. The Franciscans were arrested by the Nazis and Maximilian Kolbe was sent to the death camp of Auschwitz. There he was branded, Prisoner 16670. Destruction and violence were all around him. But he kept his faith in God and lived as a man of faith. In July of 1941, a number of prisoners escaped from the camp. The Nazi's lined up the other prisoners to carry out their policy of punishing those who remained for not alerting the guards. Ten prisoners were to be killed for every prisoner who escaped. Francis Gajowniczek, a married man with young children was one of those chosen for death. Maximilian Kolbe stepped forward and said, "Take me, instead." He was put into the starvation barracks. Three weeks later, still alive, on August 14, 1941, he was killed with an injection of carbonic acid. He was beatified by Pope Paul VI in 1971 and canonized by Pope John Paul II in 1982. St. Maximilian Kolbe knew violence. He experienced it. In the middle of violence, though, he remained a man of integrity, a man of peace. He lived his faith joining his patron, Francis of Assisi, in praying that he might be an instrument of the Lord's peace. And he has been justified, honored by God and man, by God in heaven and by man on earth.

How do we deal with the violence around us? We have been conditioned by a violent society to respond to violence with violence, even escalating the situation. So we rejoin a nasty word with a vicious word, we respond to a dirty deed with an even more horrible one. That is not the way of Christ. St. Maximilian Kolbe responded to violence with sacrificial love. The people in Auschwitz who survived the horrors, and who were present as Fr. Kolbe was dying, told the world of their experience of God in the middle of violence. They spoke about a man of peace, an instrument of peace, who was what he said he was, a man of God. They spoke about his integrity.

So what, then is it that we are called to do? We are called to have faith in God to set our world straight. We are told to have an active faith in God. But we are weak. Our faith is weak. We know that God's solutions are infinitely better than ours, but we decide to take matters in our own hands. We need faith. We are like the man in the Gospel of Mark chapter 9. Jesus came upon a crowded noisy scene involving some of his disciples. At the center of the crowd there was a the man and his son. His son suffered from what we now realize was a form of epilepsy. Jesus asked, "What's going on?" The man explained his son's plight, how the boy would have what the people of his time were convinced were sudden demonic possessions. Actually, they were seizures. The boy would become rigid and foam from his mouth. Sometimes he would hurt himself, one time falling into a fire, another into water. Then the man said that he brought his son to Jesus' disciples but they were unable to do anything for him. The man then said to Jesus, "If you are able to help him, can you do something for him?" Jesus responded, "If I am able? All things can be done for the one who believes." Then the man said the words that all of us can call out, "I do believe, help those parts of me that do not believe." And Jesus cured the child.

In the middle of a violent world and recognizing our own weakness, we come together today to pray for faith and for the courage to live our faith. Violence is not more powerful than God. We have to put our trust in God. God can and will destroy whatever the violence is that is assaulting us. If we have faith, even as little as a mustard seed, we can and will move mountains or even say to the local mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and thrown into the sea," and it will obey.

"Give us, O Lord, the faith to be People of God... one with ourselves, one with others and one with you, our God." *Fr. Joseph Pellegrino*



### St. Francis of Assisi, Patron Saint of City of San Francisco, 4th of October, 2010

Son of Pietro Bernadone, a rich cloth merchant. Though he had a good education and became part of his father's business, he also had a somewhat misspent youth. Street brawler and some-time soldier. Captured during a conflict between Assisi and Perugia, Italy, he spent over a year as a prisoner of war. During this time he had a conversion experience, including a reported message from Christ calling him to leave this worldly life. Upon release, Francis began taking his faith seriously. He took the Gospels as the rule of his life, Jesus Christ as his literal example. He dressed in rough clothes, begged for his sustenance, and preached purity and peace. His family disapproved, and his father disinherited him; Francis formally renounced his wealth and inheritance. He visited hospitals, served the sick, preached in the streets, and took all men and women as siblings. He began to attract followers in 1209, and with papal blessing, founded the Franciscans based on a simple statement by Jesus: "Leave all and follow me." Composed songs and hymns to God and nature. Lived with animals, worked with his hands, cared for lepers, cleaned churches, and sent food to thieves,

In 1212 Clare of Assisi became his spiritual student, which led to the founding of the Poor Clares.. (<http://saints.sqpn.com/saint-francis-of-assisil>)

### Staff

#### Pastor: Church & School

Msgr: Labib Kobti

#### Parochial Vicars

Fr Andrew Johnson

Fr Youssef Keikati

#### Deacon:

Khaled Abu Shaer

#### Admin Assistant:

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#### Receptionist:

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#### Campus Ministry:

STM Pastor &

Verbum Dei Sisters

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(415) 573-9062

#### RCIC:

Kathy Sanford

(650) 738-0646

#### RCIA & Music:

Suzanne Hockel

(415) 826-6834

#### STM School:

(415) 337-0100

### This Week's Events

#### Mon. October 4th

#### Charismatic Prayer Group:

Brazilian Community

7:00 PM-9:00 PM

#### Tue. October 5th

Legion of Mary,

Scanlan Hall 6:00 PM

#### Communion & Liberation,

Scanlan Hall 8:00 PM

#### Wed. October 6th

#### Baptism Preparation Class

6:30pm in the Rectory

#### Thurs. October 7th

#### Job Support Network

7-8pm Scanlan hall

#### Fri. October 8th

#### AACC Youth Group

Scanlan Hall, 6:30pm

#### Sat. October 9th

#### Bible Study Group,

Alma Via 7:00pm

#### Sun. October 10th

#### 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 jar of peanut butter, 1 canned meat or tuna, 2 cans of vegetables, 1 box of granola/cereal bars. No glass items, please. Thanks.

**MASS INTENTIONS**  
**Oct 3rd—Oct 9th, 2010**

|           |         |                                |
|-----------|---------|--------------------------------|
| 10/03 Sun | 10:00am | People of STM                  |
|           | 8:00pm  | Juan & Natalia Soriano (Anniv) |
| 10/04 Mon | 8:30am  | Laura & Mario Biagini †        |
| 10/05 Tue | 5:30pm  | Juliana T. Montesa (B'day)     |
| 10/06 Wed | 8:30am  | Souls in Purgatory †           |
| 10/07 Thu | 5:30pm  | Remedios Librojo †             |
| 10/08 Fri | 8:30am  | Bridget Suazon (Bday)          |
| 10/09 Sat | 8:30am  | Francisca Benaza (Thanksg)     |
|           | 5:00pm  | Paul & Samiere Family (Sp Int) |

*Attending the Mass you offer is appreciated.*



\*Everyone is invited to the Blessing of Animals on **Monday, October 4th, the feast of St Francis of Assisi, at 3 PM**, after school lets out, in front of the shrine of St. Francis Please bring plastic bags with you, just in case.

Increase Our Faith Increase



Our Faith Increase Our Faith

**Assisi, at 3 PM**, after school lets out, in front of the shrine of St. Francis Please bring plastic bags with you, just in case.

**\*STM Lector/Eucharistic Ministry Training:** Lector training will begin **Sat, October 9**, from 3pm to 4:30pm. Eucharistic Ministry training starts **Wed, October 13**, from 7pm-9pm. If you are interested in any of these ministries, please call Arthur Sanchez (650) 619-1234.

**\*Adult Confirmation Classes** will begin on **Wednesday Oct 13th** at 7pm in Scanlan Hall. For more info., please call Suzanne Hockel at (415) 826-6834.

**\*Mass Intention.** Some dates are available for Mass Intention till the rest of the year. Please call the office if you would like to pray for a deceased [or living] loved one with one of our regularly scheduled Masses. A stipend of \$10 for every Mass will go directly to the celebrating priest.

**\*2011 Missalette donations.** We are again nearing the end of the Liturgical year and we will have to change our Missallettes. As we have done in the past 3 years or so, we will again invite donors to help us cover the cost of these Missallettes. Each time the Missal is opened for prayer and/or a song, our benefactors and loved ones will be in our thoughts and will share in our participation at Mass. Letters and donations slips will be mailed out soon. Please consider honoring loved ones with a \$100 donation.

**\*"St. Thomas More Senior Sharing & Support Group".** You may be the volunteer we are waiting for! If you are not involved in any ministry right now, please consider this fun & fulfilling ministry. Do not hesitate to respond to the call of God. Please call the office and help us steer the direction of this new ministry at STM!

**\*Thank you to all who participated and volunteered at our 4th Annual International Food Festival. It was a great success. Thanks too, to the School and the Boy Scouts for their participation. God bless you all, we formed ONE CHURCH ONE FAMILY.** Proceeds from the Food Festival will help us pay part of our \$56,600 AAA assessment this year. We thank all who responded to our **envelope campaign** asking only \$48 dollars this year from each parishioner. Less than 20% of our parishioners have responded so far. Special thanks to those who gave over \$48, and to those who gave even if it hurt to do so. To those who haven't responded yet, there is still time to make staggered donations.

**Campus Ministry**

**\*Mass On Campus:** Mass for students will be on **Monday October 4th at 12:30pm** at Rosa Parks F, SFSU. For on future Masses or events, please call (415) 573-9062.



October is the month of the Holy Rosary. **An open invitation to all:** Come to Mass early and pray the rosary.

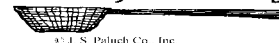


**All the sick people to be read during Masses:**

Maritess Leonidas, 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, especially **Eroditia A. Pasion (Alma Via)**

*(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**



**Weekend of:**  
**Sept 26th, 2010**  
**\$ 3574.10**

**2nd Collection:**  
**Priest's Retirement Fund**  
**\$1,260.45**

**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](mailto:stmchurch@aol.com)