

# Hispanic Ministry Team

July- December 2008

## Past News and Events

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July was time of change for the Hispanic community at St. Thomas Aquinas, as we welcomed Father Jerónimo Gutierrez to our parish.



**July 11th-** The first Spanish healing mass took place on July 11th, lead by Father Giovanni Vizzotti. The following day, July 12th, a hispanic parish retreat took place at OLR hall.

**July 19th-** the Charismatic Youth Congress took place at Holy Cross in San Jose, which was well attended by the hispanic young adult group. Later in September, a young adult gathering follow-up took place at Santa Catalina church in Morgan Hill, again well attended.

**August 15-17-** the Encuentro de Hijos e Hijas took place. This is a retreat open to all young adults in the diocese. Our Lady of the Rosary sponsors the coordination of the retreat by offering space to meet for the coordination of the retreat, and helps to organize the retreat finances, insurance, etc. About 100 Young Adults from the diocese attended the retreat- 4 were from OLR. Of the 30+ core group members, about 1/3 are consistently involved in the OLR community.

**August 30-** Catechist Retreat, at the Los Altos Jesuit Retreat House. A day of reflection in order to comprehend the responsibilities in the year to come.

**September 5th-** 2nd Healing Mass at OLR.

**September 26-28-** Charismatic Renewal Congress; a 3 day event with conferences, topics, and more, which took place at the Santa Clara Fairgrounds. Co-coordinated by Maria de Jesus.



## Time & Talent

During the month of October, the hispanic committee actively participated in time & talent at all sites in order to promote more visibility in the parish. At OLR, Time & Talent proved to be a great success. There are 11 new eucharist ministers, for a total of 28 active ministers. There were 7 new sign-ups for lectors, though not all went to the first meeting, however at least 4 are currently

reading at masses. The Choir has 9 new members, and there are 7 new catechist volunteers. The Hispanic Leadership Team has also had several leaders rotate out, and has introduced new representatives for Choir, Liturgy, Young Adults, and the Charismatic prayer group.

## Catechism, First Communion and Confirmation

- Approx. 100 students in the Catechism classes (k-5th)
- There are 27 students in the First Communion program
- In the Confirmation program, there is a pre-confirmation group that consists of 7th and 8th graders. There are 17 students in this group. There are 11 students in the 1st year confirmation group, and 12 in the 2nd year confirmation group.

## Other Events

- **Nov. 14th**- Talent show. 200+ parishioners came out to OLR for a night of talent fun and good food.
- **Nov. 15th**- Parish Retreat. 5 parishioners from the hispanic communittee attended.
- Catholic Concert at St. Joseph. Well attended by parishioners from the diocese.
- **Dec. 5th**- Diocesan Vespers for Virgen de Guadalupe. Only 3 parishioners attended the procesion, and there were about 10 parishioners at the service.
- **UPCOMING**
- **Dec. 14- Dia de Guadalupe**
- **Dec. 19- Community Posada**

## Reflection



**Nolvía Chacon**

Sept. 8, 1954 - Dec. 1, 2008

We celebrate the life of a devoted parishioner. Nolvía was a catechist and liturgy minister, and was a force to be reckoned with. Her hugs, smile and energy will be greatly missed by all.