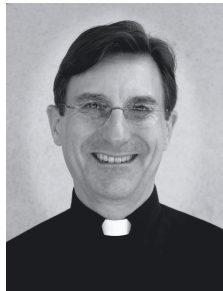


# Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## A LITTLE ABOUT REV. MR. THIERRY GERIS



I was born in Brussels, Belgium of a French mother and Belgian father. I studied electrical engineering at the Ecole Polytechnique and "Sup-Télécom" in Paris. After graduation, I sought a job in the U.S., eager to discover new cultures and peoples. I found them in Houston, Texas where I worked for 12 years as a software engineer. I then moved to the Bay Area and worked for 18 years in various engineering management positions.

During a vacation in the mid-'90s, I was touched by the art and architecture of the churches of Rome. Somehow, they brought the gospel message to life for me. I then became involved in various ministries at my parish of St. Lawrence, the Martyr. This was followed by studies at the Institute for Lay Leadership in Ministry. I was accepted in the Deacon/Advanced Lay Leadership formation program in 2001, and ordained permanent deacon in April 2005. My assignment was twofold: chaplain ministry at the Elmwood county jail and liturgical ministry at my parish. At the same time, I completed the graduate program in Pastoral Ministries at Santa Clara University.

My calling to the priesthood took shape progressively. When I first considered the idea, I was not ready to leave my engineering job. But over time, ministry became more important to me as I saw Christ at work in the jail. I developed a sense of solidarity with the disadvantaged in society and a greater concern for social justice. God was calling me to take a new direction in life. I left my job and applied to St. Patrick's seminary with the intent of being formed for the priesthood.

It is a privilege for me to train to serve the Lord and my brothers and sisters as a priest. I am attracted and challenged by the fact that a priest represents Christ the shepherd, and is called to be His living image. I realize that I came to this vocation rather late, but I believe that my life experience will serve me as a priest. My ministry and training as a deacon have taught me the sacredness and dignity of all human beings since all are made in the image and likeness of God. And I have learned to trust in God – He has shown that, if He wills it, there can be second acts in life.

*Rev. Mr. Geris was a Seminarian Deacon, and spent his Pastoral Year assigned to Saint Catherine of Alexandria Parish in Morgan Hill, CA. He was ordained a priest May 23, 2009 and assigned to St. Thomas Aquinas Parish as his first priestly assignment.*

## MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, October 11:  
9:00 am SAG . . . . . Emil Trojak (birthday)  
12:00 pm STA . . . . . Layda Kurash †  
*Readings: Wis 7:7-11; Ps 90; Heb 4:12-13;  
Mk 10:17-30 [17-27]*

Monday, October 12:  
8:30 am OLR . . . . . Marc L. Reyes (birthday)  
*Readings: Rom 1:1-7; Lk 11:29-32*

Tuesday, October 13:  
8:30 am OLR . . . . . Holy Souls in Purgatory  
12:15 pm STA . . . . . Irene Kenneally †  
*Readings: Rom 1:16-25; Lk 11:37-41*

Wednesday, October 14: St. Callistus I  
8:30 am OLR . . . . . Gigi Gaffney †  
*Readings: Rom 2:1-11; Lk 11:42-46*

Thursday, October 15: St. Teresa of Jesus  
*Readings: Rom 3:21-30; Lk 11:47-54*

Friday, October 16: St. Hedwig; St. Margaret  
Mary Alacoque  
*Readings: Rom 4:1-8; Lk 12:1-7*

Saturday, October 17: St. Ignatius of Antioch  
*Readings: Rom 4:13, 16-18; Lk 12:8-12*

## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

St. Vincent de Paul food pantry is in need of the following food items: crackers, fruit cups, plastic spoons, tuna, "hearty chunky" soups. Please bring the food to the vestibule of the church on Sundays.

## PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

Saturday & Sunday October 17 & 18, 2009

St. Albert the Great  
Sat 5:00 pm . . . . . Fr. Aranha  
Sun 9:00 am . . . . . Fr. Aranha  
  
St. Thomas Aquinas  
Sun 7:30 am . . . . . Fr. Hester  
Sun 8:45 am . . . . . Fr. Rubio  
Sun 10:30 am . . . . . Fr. Aranha  
Sun 12 noon . . . . . TBA

Our Lady of the Rosary  
Sun 9:00 am (español) . . . Fr. Geris  
Sun 10:30 am . . . . . Fr. Geris



### Please Pray

**FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** — Nicholas Humy, Devin Wakefield, Mary Harvey, Rita McAlester, Carson Englarot, Frankie Briggs, Barbara Franceschi, Norman Swope, Virginia Jordan, Alan Shpalo, Sarah Clear, Eva Lewng, Jane Bahr, Smithy Smith, Milo Gwosden, Bobby Kerrigan, Elizabeth Hofstetter, Evaldo Nascirueuto, Fausto Araujo, Joan Copenhagen, Ann Bisacca

**FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED** — Benjamin Antonio Sr., Jim Chinn, Robert Jordan, Nancy Condon, Anthony Thalmann, Sophie Bandur, Rena del Rosario, Geraldine Thalmann, Isabel Mulcahy, Alija Jayne Schemel, Harriett Biggs, Fr. Charles Macedo

Pray For Lists guidelines: • Have permission from the person to be listed. • Go through the Pastoral Home Ministry to list the names. • Names will be on the list for 3 months and then be removed. • Can request names to be continued after 3 months. Contact the Pastoral Home Ministry 650-494-2496 x22 or [fongmt@hotmail.com](mailto:fongmt@hotmail.com)

Please note our email address:  
[bulletin@paloaltocatholic.org](mailto:bulletin@paloaltocatholic.org)

BULLETIN . . . . . ARTICLE DUE  
Oct 25 . . . **Thu** Oct 15 noon  
Nov 1 . . . **Thu** Oct 22 noon



### Our Weekly Offering

September 20 . . . . . \$ 10,056.80  
*thank you for your continued generosity*

### Year To Date

Actual YTD . . \$ 110,564.34  
Budget YTD . . \$ 110,642.52  
Variance . . . . . - 2.71%

# St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

## THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, October 11: Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time; National Children's Day 9:15, 10:15 am .. Religious Ed. (OLR/SESS) 4:00 pm ..... Youth (OLRH/DC)

Monday, October 12: Columbus Day 7:30 pm ..... Medjugorje Group (KC)

Tuesday, October 13:  
6:00 pm ..... Baptism Class (PC)  
7:00 pm ..... Knights of Columbus (OLRH)  
7:00 pm ..... Spirituality Series (SAGH)  
7:00 pm ..... YA Circle (OLR/KC)

Wednesday, October 14:  
9:00 am ..... STAY Board (PC)  
6:00, 7:30 pm ... RCIC Elem., HS (DC)  
7:00 pm ..... PSC (SAGH)  
7:30 pm ..... RCIA (PC)

Thursday, October 15:  
7:00 pm ..... ASDC Comm. (SAGH)

Friday, October 16: National Boss Day  
7:00 pm ..... YAG (OLRH)

Saturday, October 17: Sweetest Day

## AGE OF AQUINAS DANCE

**Sat., October 24, 2009, 8:00 pm:** Harvest/Halloween Dance. Come join the festivities celebrating the fall harvest and Halloween! The Sharp Nines, will be playing for us again with new additions to their repertoire. Doors open 8:00 pm, music starts around 8:30 pm till about 11. \$10.00 (Cash only, please, no checks)! Snacks and beverages will be provided. St. Albert the Great Hospitality Center, Email: Ron, wipf7585@juno.com or call 408.772.0852 (cell).

## MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

For all those parishioners who have died over the past year and in loving memory of all deceased relatives and friends of our parishioners. **November 14, 2009** 5:00pm St. Albert the Great Church. A reception to follow.

## WIDOW/WIDOWERS OCTOBERFEST BARBECUE DINNER

Widowers are invited to an **Octoberfest Barbecue Afternoon Dinner Party**. St. Thomas Aquinas parishioners Roland Quintero and Vic Befera invite all men who are widowers to be their guests at a gala Octoberfest Barbecue, **Friday, October 16th**. Starting at 3:30 p.m. at Roland's "Biergarten", in Palo Alto. Map will follow.

German food, Sausage, German potato salad, Rotkohl, German sauerkraut, and we hope highlighted by imported German Octoberfest Beer. Oomp-pah-pah music will be our background environment Beer served by our German Madchen or two. Men who have recently lost their spouse are warmly invited to our gemutlichkeit get acquainted afternoon. A no cooking, no charge day, just bring a beer mug or Bierstein if you have one, of any size. For reservations (required) please call by October 14th to Vic at (650) 328-3936 OR email: rolquinmac@me.com

## TIME AND TALENT FAIR AT STA TODAY

Today is the first of three Sundays on which a **Time & Talent Fair** will be held in our parish. St. Thomas Aquinas Church is the site, and displays and sign-up sheets for new and old volunteers will be beckoning those who attend one of the four Masses today at our downtown church. In the spirit of the STA Garden Party held in August, today's Time & Talent Fair will feature Peet's coffee, Hobee's coffee cake, fruit from the Farmers' Market, and lively, friendly parishioners happy to explain their ministries and invite your participation. Volunteers are encouraged to step forward and see what might be needed. Ministries present will include Liturgy, Adult Spiritual Education, Human Concerns, Communications, Community Life, Finance, Building and Maintenance, RCIA, Youth Ministry, Catechetical Board, and other groups, such as the Thomas Merton Center, Knights of Columbus, and Age of Aquinas (singles). Stop by after Mass and enjoy coffee and conversation at the very least!

## CATHOLIC CHARITIES TAX PREPARATION

HELP CLAIM TAX TIME BENEFITS for low income working families. Volunteers with accounting or banking experience can join Catholic Charities in opening a tax preparation site at St. Joseph School, Mountain View, next February. Many of these beneficial credits go unclaimed without help. Some training is involved and five Saturday mornings working with clients. More background information is on the Peace and Justice table. If interested, please phone Janet Hayter at (650) 968-2650

## JUSTFAITH NONVIOLENCE SEMINAR

You are cordially invited to attend a monthly seminar on nonviolence on one Monday a month from October through May. Nonviolence is a way of life first laid out by Jesus Christ in the Beatitudes in His Sermon on the Mount. It is not passivity; Ghandi called it "holding to the truth." As each one of us learns nonviolence, all of our lives will be improved. Meetings begin on October 19 at the Pastoral Center. You can join the seminar by sending a check for \$25 made out to St. Thomas Aquinas which is for the book produced by Pace e Bene. For questions and more info, phone Patricia Markee at 493-6242 or e-mail pmmarkee@hotmail.com or Susan Adams, 321-5565, susan.m.adams@comcast.net.

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# October 11, 2009

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## SPONSOR A STUDENT IN WALK-A-THON

**St. Elizabeth Seton School** is holding its 7th Annual Walk-A-Thon on October 16, and the children are getting excited. Please look out for our students, most of whom live in East Palo Alto and the surrounding area, at some of our masses the previous weekend. They'll be seeking sponsors for their fun event. (Generally a sponsor gives them a donation to St. Elizabeth Seton School of any amount, or a check marked "Walk-A-Thon" can be mailed directly to the school.) Do stop by to say hello and chat with our children – thank you!

## YOUTH MINISTRY

New this year are monthly youth Masses, dinner for the students, and youth group sessions. The next Mass, dinner and youth session will be a 6:00 pm on Sun., October 11, 2009. Sessions in October meet on Oct 11 at 6pm, Oct 18 at 7pm (6pm for Confirmation) and Oct 25 at 7pm.

Middle School: the theme until December is Social Justice. Our sessions focus on a weekly topic, ranging from Image and Likeness of God, to War and Peace, and Getting Involved. This year we are utilizing a new curriculum, The Edge, from Lifeteen.org. We welcome all 6th, 7th and 8th grade youth.

High School: the theme for the year is three in one, with a focus in the fall on God the Father. Weekly programming includes icebreakers, praise and worship time, small groups, among other activities. All are welcome!!!

The first confirmation session is scheduled for Oct. 18, 2009 at 6 pm. Dinner will be served. If you have a child in grades 8-12 that wants to be confirmed, and has not registered, please let us know right away at: [Stayouth@paloaltocatholic.org](mailto:Stayouth@paloaltocatholic.org)

May God Bless you and your families.

*Chris Miller, Director of Youth Ministry and  
Kristy Rozynoyi, coordinator, Middle School Program*

## YOUNG ADULT CIRCLE

Halloween Mass and Dinner: 10/28, 2009 7:30 PM St. Joseph's Church, 582 Hope Street, Mountain View Young Adults (20's and 30's, single or married), please join us in Father Doyle Hall for Halloween Mass with Father Bob Moran. Mass will be followed by a dinner of tricks and treats. Witches and goblins are sure to attend since there is no dress code. Check our website for more information, [www.YoungAdultCircle.org](http://www.YoungAdultCircle.org)