

# Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

## TODAY'S MESSAGE

FORGIVEN

The people of Israel, even in New Testament times, thought of God in a very personal, intimate, and relationship-oriented manner. In our modern times, we have inherited categories about God from Greek philosophy: God as all-knowing, all-powerful, all-present. Not that God isn't these things, but if we think of God primarily that way, when we get to the end of Isaiah today ("your sins I remember no more"), we are a bit confounded. How can an all-knowing God forget anything? Isaiah's listeners would have been more inclined to rejoice at what a wonderful, loving relationship God had with them. God—who had the power to forgive their sins—forgave sins, and then completely forgot them! Jesus, in today's Gospel, is also more interested in the paralyzed man knowing that wonderful, loving, healing presence of God than he is in satisfying the scribes' pre-conceived notions about God. How often it is we, not God, who remain paralyzed by our past sinfulness, even when we have been forgiven by God and reconciled with others. Let us, instead, give God glory by picking ourselves up from our paralyzed past, and journey on as disciples of Jesus.

## 2009 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL



By following Christ faithfully in our lives, we "Grow in Faith Together." We have each been blessed with many gifts and are called to reach out in faith to share those blessings with one another. Please be as generous as you can in contributing to the 2009 ADA. To date, 138 families have made pledges and gifts of over \$56,362. We are 48% of the way to reaching our goal of \$116,250. Consider making your pledge today - see our ADA Tables after Mass for more information.

## MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, February 22:

9:00 am SAG . . . Frankie & Frank Briggs (health)

10:30 am OLR . . . Brian Franklin †

Readings: *Is 43:18-19, 21-22, 24b-25; Ps 41; 2 Cor 1:18-22; Mk 2:1-12*

Monday, February 23: St. Polycarp

7:15 am . . . . . Rita Kramer †

12:15 pm . . . . . All Holy Souls in Purgatory

Readings: *Sir 1:1-10; Mk 9:14-29*

Tuesday, February 24:

12:15 pm . . . . . William Gretz Jr †

Readings: *Sir 2:1-11; Mk 9:30-37*

Wednesday, February 25:

Readings: *Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51; 2 Cor 5:20 — 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18*

Thursday, February 26:

8:30 am . . . . . Jimmy Teresi †

12:15 pm . . . . . Thanksgiving health for Tina Reyes

Readings: *Dt 30:15-20; Lk 9:22-25*

Friday, February 27:

Readings: *Is 58:1-9a; Mt 9:14-15*

Saturday, February 28:

5:00 pm SAG . . . Tony Schembri †

Readings: *Is 58:9b-14; Lk 5:27-32*

Second Collection next Wednesday Feb 25:

..... Ash Wednesday

Second Collection next weekend:

..... Aid to Churches in E. Europe

## PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

Saturday & Sunday Feb. 28 & March 1, 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 . . . . . Msgr. Boyle

Sun 10:30 am . . . . . Fr. Aranha

Sun 12 noon . . . . . Fr. Ramalow

Our Lady of the Rosary

Sun 9:00 am (español) .. Fr. Gutiérrez

Sun 10:30 am . . . . . Fr. Gutiérrez



### Please Pray

**FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** — Nancy Condon, Nicholas Humy, Chet Maksim, Devin Wakefield, Cypress Winters, Sophie Bandur, Fr. Charlie Macedo, Carole Stuart, Mary Harvey, Michael Fong, Brian Dooney, Rita McAlester, Sherry Kruep, Carson Enghardt, John Martin, Joseph Seebach

**FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED** — Beatrice Espicha, Sarah Ann Washburn, Mary Hansen, Mary Imbornone, Donald Ewart, Susa Langdon, Marian Partelow, Jerry Chu, Rita Kramer, Brian Franklin, Alan McPherson, Lena DeFrenza, Fr. Charles Dougherty, Fr. Barry Freyne, Frances Kral

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  
Mar 8 . . . . . **Thu** Feb 26 noon  
Mar 15 . . . . . **Thu** Mar 5 noon



### Our Weekly Offering

February 8 . . . . . \$ 11,649.71  
St. Vincent de Paul . . . . . \$ 4,909.00  
*thank you for your continued generosity*

### Year To Date

Actual YTD . . . \$ 384,686.63  
Budget YTD . . \$ 405,819.95  
Variance . . . . . - 5.21%

# February 22, 2009

## THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, February 22: Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time; George Washington's Birthday

9:15 am ..... Rel. Ed. Sac. Prep. (OLR)

10:15 am ..... Rel. Ed. Sac. Prep. (SAG)

Monday, February 23: Orthodox Clean Monday

7:00 pm ..... Holy Land Talk (OLRH)

7:00 pm ..... Age of Aquinas (SAGH)

7:30 pm ..... Medjugorje Group (KC)

Tuesday, February 24: Mardi Gras; Shrove Tuesday

6:00 pm ..... SOUP (OLRH)

Wednesday, February 25: Ash Wednesday; Fast and Abstinence; Almsgiving

Thursday, February 26:

9am-4pm ..... Teachers Meetings (OLRH)

7:00 pm ..... First Communion (PC)

Friday, February 27: Abstinence

12pm-4pm ..... Teachers Meetings (OLRH)

7:00 pm ..... Young Adult (OLRH)

Saturday, February 28:

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Volunteers Needed In The Spiritual Care Program, Stanford University Hospital:** The Spiritual Care Service at Stanford Hospital is seeking Catholic volunteers to visit, pray and offer the Eucharist to patients and families. Volunteers must be willing to commit two hours a week for a year.

A Training Program will be held at Our Lady of the Rosary Hall, 3233 Cowper Street, Palo Alto on Monday evenings: March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30. 7:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.

If you are interested in volunteering, please respond by calling the Spiritual Care Service office at 650-723-5101 or email [ghollingsworth@stanfordmed.org](mailto:ghollingsworth@stanfordmed.org) and listing your name and phone number. Interviews begin in February.

## UPCOMING PARISH & DIOCESE EVENTS

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23 – ARCHEOLOGY OF THE HOLY LAND** Patrick Hunt of Stanford University will present a talk on the archeology of the Holy Land at 7:00 p.m. in the OLR Hall. Patrick is a Lecturer with the Department of Classics at Stanford University and Director of the Stanford Alpine Archaeology Project, 1994-2006. His research interests include archaeology, art history, ancient religion, and mythology. Patrick is also the author of "Ten Discoveries That Rewrote History", which covers, in part, the discoveries of Nineveh's Assyrian Library: "The Key To Mesopotamia" (Chapter 3) and "Dead Sea Scrolls: The key to Biblical Research" (Chapter 7). It should be a fascinating discussion.

**GREEN SURGE HITS CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF PALO ALTO** Yes, only 3 weeks until the annual St. Patrick's Day parish party -- a memorable evening of Irish culture, live music, dancing, corned beef and cabbage, and hospitality. Perfect for Seniors and young families. Leave the baby sitter at home! Tickets are priced to welcome participation: Adults - \$15; Children (under 12) - \$5. Ticket sales begin after all Masses: Saturday, 02/28; Sunday, 03/01. St. Elizabeth Seton Auditorium, 1093 Channing, PA: 6:00 - 8:00 PM. Always room for more volunteers -- from decorations to clean up. Contact Joe Kinsella: 364-3705. Everyone's Irish on St. Patrick's Day!

## THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

**THE RITE OF SENDING** Next Sunday at the St. Albert the Great 9:00 am Mass "The Rite of Sending" will be celebrated. Our five adult catechumens will be sent to the Bishop to celebrate "The Rite of Election, or "Enrollment of Names" starting at 3:30pm at the Cathedral in San Jose. Those five are: Brenda LeBlanc, Amber Lui, James Harris, Christopher Hutcheson, and Colin Thom. The rite takes place during Mass. The catechumens advance toward the sacraments of initiation (baptism, eucharist, confirmation) based upon the spoken testimony of their godparent(s), catechists, and parishioners. Once their testimonies are received and acknowledged by The Faithful present, the five will enter their names in our parish Book of the Elect.

At the Cathedral celebration that same day, Bishop McGrath will formally acknowledge the readiness of the catechumens, and invite them to the sacraments. The catechumens, accompanied by their godparent(s), will respond by expressing their desire for these sacraments. The parish Book of the Elect will be presented to the Bishop for his blessing as their names are announced to those assembled. From this time until their baptism at the Easter Vigil they are referred to as The Elect.

During the following six weeks of Lent (now called the Period of Purification and Enlightenment) the Elect and the parish community of St. Thomas Aquinas together focus on their own conversion, scrutinize their own lives in light of the Gospel, and participate during Mass in the three penitential rites called "The Scrutinies" on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sundays of Lent. at St. Albert's at 9:00am.

Please continue to keep these future Catholics in your prayers, in addition to the four seeking reception into the Catholic church and the nine being confirmed at the Easter Vigil on April 11.

*Jean Ramacciotti, Director of the Catechumenate (RCIA), 650 494-2496 ext. 34, [pajeanr@yahoo.com](mailto:pajeanr@yahoo.com)*

# St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

## THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Archives project is now up and running! A group of dedicated volunteers has begun organizing materials from our parish life and history. Materials from different ministries are being collected and organized, with the goal of preserving the documents and making them available for future use or research.

It is exciting to work with our Parish's "historical" documents and artifacts, and we need more helping hands! If you can volunteer for 2-3 hours each week in the coming year, we would love to have your assistance on materials related to: - pastor, staff, parishioner photos; - community life and social activities; - historical write ups

In addition, we're looking for expertise related to database creation, and database entry. If you can help or have questions, contact Mary Beth Lefebvre at [mbstudy@yahoo.com](mailto:mbstudy@yahoo.com) or 650-323-4781.

## SENIOR CHAT ON PRE-HOSPICE

Senior Chats are held at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 670 East Meadow Drive the 2nd and 4th Fridays, and at the Los Altos United Methodist Church, 655 Magdalena Ave., the 1st and 3rd Fridays, each 10-11:30am. These ecumenical gatherings are open to everyone, co-sponsored by the Council of Churches (of which our parish is a member), and funded by local churches and Senior New Ways. Rev. Dona Smith-Power coordinates the program. For more information check the calendar at [www.councilofchurches-scc.org](http://www.councilofchurches-scc.org)

Upcoming topics:

Feb. 27 (Palo Alto) - Pre-Hospice (early support for homebound)

March 5 (Los Altos) - Are Computers Good for Your Health??

## AGE OF AQUINAS

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23 – FREE FINANCIAL TALK** The topic is Financial Wisdom For Mid-Lifers, and the talk is free. Ms. Edmunds-Zediker is a Certified Financial Planner specializing in financial planning, financial education, and insurance planning. She is currently Financial Advisor for Foothill Securities. Time: 7:30 pm till about 8:30 pm with Q&A time afterward. Cost: FREE! Refreshments will be served. Please RSVP to Mabel ASAP (by 2/18 if poss.) if you plan to attend. Location: St. Albert the Great Hospitality Center, 1095 Channing Ave, Palo Alto, CA 94301 More information: Email Mabel [mngo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mngo@sbcglobal.net) or [age-of-aquinas@paloaltocatholic.org](mailto:age-of-aquinas@paloaltocatholic.org), or visit <http://paloaltocatholci.org/AofA.html>.

## YOUNG ADULTS

**Deanery 2 Young Adults** [[www.YoungAdultCircle.org](http://www.YoungAdultCircle.org)] The Young Adult Mass this month is Tues. 2/24, 7:30pm. Held at the St. Nicholas Teen Center (aka the Intersection) at 12816 S. El Monte Ave., Los Altos Hills, (West of Foothill Expwy, just before I-280)

### **YOUNG ADULTS [20s to 30s, single or married]**

Join us as we begin Lent on Fat Tuesday with Fr. Larry of St. Nicholas as celebrant. Come and meet young adults from the parishes of Palo Alto, Mountain View and Los Altos for our monthly celebration of the Eucharist and a fun Mardi Gras fellowship afterwards. Please park in the parking lot of St. Nicholas School and walk over to the Intersection Center. A map is posted on our website, [www.YoungAdultCircle.org](http://www.YoungAdultCircle.org)

Young Adult Board Game Night, Sat, 2/28, 7:30PM, Fr. Doyle Hall, St. Joseph Church 582 Hope St, Mountain View. Join Young Adults from this and other Deanery 2 parishes for a longtime Circle tradition. Bring your favorite board game and a snack or drink to share. Contact Larry, [hudat@stanfordalumni.org](mailto:hudat@stanfordalumni.org)