

# Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

## TODAY'S MESSAGE

### SEE BEYOND OUTWARD APPEARANCES

The phrase "Sunday best" has lost much of its meaning in our society today. Some lament the loss of people dressing up for church on Sunday; others think it's a healthy sign that we're as casual in attire gathered before the Lord as we are elsewhere. No matter which school of thought on this topic we belong to, James would probably chastise us. In either case, we are still focused on external appearance, mistaking it for some sort of favored position before God. True, James criticizes the community that favors the rich and well-dressed while ostracizing the poorly clothed, but even more he criticizes the making of distinctions, making choices based on criteria that have nothing to do with the reign of God. James might turn our attention to the reign of God described by Isaiah, in which people are healed and the earth becomes ripe to bear fruit. Jesus today is focused on this reign of God, healing a Gentile man in a region hostile to his Jewish faith, not mindful of the man's origins or clothing or status or ability to repay. Isaiah, James, and Jesus in Mark's Gospel all call us to look more deeply to find where the will of God needs to be done, and has been done, on earth as in heaven.

## PARISH PICNIC

This year's Parish Picnic will be held at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, on Cowper Street, Sunday September 13th from 11:30 until 3pm. Tasty burgers will be barbecued to order by the Knights of Columbus. Please bring a side dish or salad to share if your last name begins with A-M; desserts will be brought by those with N-Z. Beverages will be provided. There will be games and crafts for the kids, including a piñata of treats. Face painting will be available for children of ALL ages. Come one, come all! For more details see the poster in the vestibule.

## MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, September 6:

10:30 am OLR . . . Roy Onyewuenyi  
(thanksgiving)

12:00 pm STA . . . Shawn Carr (birthday)

Readings: *Is 35:4-7a; Ps 146; Jas 2:1-5; Mk 7:31-37*

Monday, September 7:

Readings: *Col 1:24 — 2:3; Lk 6:6-11*

Tuesday, September 8: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Readings: *Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30;*

*Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 [1:18-23]*

Wednesday, September 9: St. Peter Claver

8:30 am OLR . . . SVPD Parish Conference  
Members †

12:15 pm STA . . . Jack McGannon †

Readings: *Col 3:1-11; Lk 6:20-26*

Thursday, September 10:

Readings: *Col 3:12-17; Lk 6:27-38*

Friday, September 11:

7:15 am STA. . . . Layda Kurash †

Readings: *1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14; Lk 6:39-42*

Saturday, September 12: Most Holy Name of the Blessed Virgin Mary; Blessed Virgin Mary

12:15 pm STA . . . James & Edith Dubbs †

Readings: *1 Tm 1:15-17; Lk 6:43-49*

## PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

Saturday & Sunday September 12 & 13, 2009

St. Albert the Great

Sat 5:00 pm . . . . . Fr. Aranha

Sun 9:00 am . . . . . Fr. Geris

St. Thomas Aquinas

Sun 7:30 am . . . . . Fr. Hester

Sun 8:45 am . . . . . TBA

Sun 10:30 am . . . . . Fr. Geris

Sun 12 noon . . . . . Fr. Nahoe

Our Lady of the Rosary

Sun 9:00 am (español) . . TBA

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

Sun 7:00 pm . . . . . Fr. Aranha



### Please Pray

**FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** — Nicholas Humy, Devin Wakefield, Mary Harvey, Rita McAlester, Carson Enghardt, Frankie Briggs, Barbara Franceschi, Norman Swope, Virginia Jordan, Laura Simeone, Alan Shpalo, Sarah Clear, Eva Leung, Jane Bahr, Smithy Smith, Roy Onyewuenyi

**FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED** — Chet Maksim, Antoni Bozynski, Gilbert Huesca, Rosalie Martin-Veque, Benjamin Antonio Sr., Jim Chinn, Robert Jordan, Nancy Condon, Anthony Thalmann, Sophie Bandur, Rena del Rosario, Geraldine Thalmann

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  
Sep 20 . . . **Thu** Sep 10 noon  
Sep 27 . . . **Thu** Sep 17 noon



### Our Weekly Offering

August 16 . . . . . \$ 9,278.91  
August 13 Assumption . . . \$ 795.00  
*thank you for your continued generosity*

### Year To Date

Actual YTD . . . \$ 64,569.25  
Budget YTD . . . \$ 66,541.47  
Variance . . . . . - 2.96%

# St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

## THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, September 6: Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

3:00 pm ..... Young Adult Retreat – Encuentro (OLR)

Monday, September 7: Labor Day

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

Tuesday, September 8:

6:00 pm ..... Baptism Class (PC)

7:00 pm ..... Parish Picnic Meeting (PC)

7:00 pm ..... Young Adult Circle (OLR/KC)

7:30 pm ..... Knights of Columbus (OLRH)

Wednesday, September 9:

7:00 pm ..... PSC (SAGC)

Thursday, September 10:

7:00 pm ..... Thomas Merton (SAGC)

Friday, September 11: Patriot Day

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

Saturday, September 12:

## JUSTFAITH

Just Faith — feast for hungry hearts. COME TO THE TABLE — JustFaith Ministries in the Santa Clara Co. invites all to join in the celebration of God's compassion in the world.

Keep your eye on this space. Next week we'll announce where you can go to learn something more about this really transformative program that's starting the end of this month. Come taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

## S.T.A. BRIDGE 2009-10

Time to sign up for the new season of bridge. Please notify Ann Ackerman at 650-326-1336 or Nickie Andrews at 650-494-2152 if you plan to play again this year. We play bridge in the afternoon once a month from October through June. Please call one of us by Sept. 10th so we can set up a schedule and get them mailed to you.

## PACIFIST HEART, ACTIVIST HANDS

76 years ago the Catholic Worker Movement was founded by the American activist Dorothy Day and a French Christian Brother, Peter Maurin. They devoted their lives to serving the poor, resisting war, and organizing collective worker movements in urban centers and on farms across North America.

In May of 1960 Father Eugene Boyle interviewed Dorothy Day on Pacifica Radio Station KPFA in Berkeley, and for the first time in half a century this interview will be publicly aired before an audience. Monsignor Eugene Boyle will share his reflections looking back on that day, and Larry Purcell of the Catholic Worker House in Redwood City will discuss how the movement has changed people's lives.

Thursday, September 17 @ 7:00 p.m. Our Lady of the Rosary Church. Donations requested to benefit the Catholic Worker House. Donations of money, food, toiletries, laundry detergent, garbage bags, brooms, tools, bicycles, binoculars, and working computers are all welcome. Please be as generous as possible.

Co-sponsored by the Thomas Merton Community, St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, and the Catholic Worker House. Wheelchair accessible. Plenty of parking.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The South Palo Alto Food Closet is in need of volunteers. This Closet has been serving families for over 30 years. It is at Covenant Presbyterian Church near the corner of Middlefield and East Meadow Drive. Willing hands are needed for ongoing tasks of gathering/ distribution, administration, storage, scheduling decision making, working 2 hour shifts etc. If interested, please contact our parishioner Dick Freeman at 493-9024. The need is urgent.

## GREEN CORNER

**Seeking members for STA's new Green Committee** – The STA parish has set up a new Green Committee in response to Bishop McGrath's letter earlier this year announcing the formation of a Steering Committee on the Catholic Green initiative of Santa Clara County "to encourage 'green initiatives' and ask all Catholics to make a difference in an organized and sustainable way."

In February, an Environmental Stewardship Town Hall meeting in Partnership with Catholic Charities, Santa Clara University and the Presentation Center was conducted at Santa Clara University to kick-off this campaign with the goal of forming grassroots action committees of committed Catholics.

If you are interested in joining us at the parish level in this endeavor, please contact Walt Lundin at wclundin@ix.netcom.com, Laura Chiu at lauraleechiu@gmail.com or Gerard McGuire at gerardmc@aol.com .

**San Jose Diocese's re-useable Green Bags available next week** – Next week-end 12th/13th September the new re-useable cloth green bags sponsored by the San Jose Diocese's Catholic Green initiative of Santa Clara County will be available after all masses at each of our three sites . A suggested donation of \$1/bag is recommended.

Support Catholic Environmental Stewardship and remember to bring some extra cash next week-end to pick up your green bags and do your part to help care for God's Creation and protect the poor and vulnerable. [Single lonely dollar bills will be a great help with change.]

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# September 6, 2009

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## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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Gospel Summary: Mark 7:31-37. - Many people did not want to hear the words of Jesus, but the deaf-mute, perhaps a symbol of the Gentiles, wanted to hear and speak. He was brought by friends who also had faith in Jesus' healing power. Jesus touched the man's ears and anointed his tongue with spittle. Looking toward heaven, Jesus commanded that the man's ears be open. At the same time, the man's tongue was free and he began to talk. Mark's gospel frequently has Jesus telling those cured not to say anything about what has happened, but many of the people, including those who witnessed this miracle, could not keep the news to themselves.

Reflection for Families: This gospel shows us the importance of keeping ourselves open to God's will. We may look at the many things we own that help make our lives easier and more comfortable. But, only when we consider the difficulties of one who lives with a handicap, do we realize the value of what we might otherwise take for granted. Our ability to open our ears and move our tongues may help us communicate easily, but there is more in the message of today's gospel. How open are we to hearing and sharing the Good News of Jesus? Do we worship and pray regularly with our family? Do we give witness to the Good News at school, work, in the neighborhood and community?

Sunday Morning Classes: Resume Sept. 13th. Registration, Emergency Forms and Calendar are available in the back of the church. You can also e-mail or call and we'll gladly e-mail them to you.

Catechists Needed! We all have a faith story to share. Won't you share yours with our children? Training, support and lots of fun and excitement are waiting for you to answer the call! Don't know exactly what's expected of a Catechist? Simply logged onto <http://catechistsjourney.loyolapress.com/> on the internet; scroll down the right side to 'Helpful Resources from Joe' and choose, 'Top Ten Reasons to become a Catechist'. (Thank you Leslie Scarborough for this tip!) Then, give us a call – let's talk!

Volunteer Site Coordinator Needed! If you like talking with people, directing them, keeping order and doing a little administration work and you have a few hours on Sun. mornings, then this position is for you! St. Albert the Great is in need of the Sunday morning Site Coor. For more details, please contact me. Contact info below.

Children's Catechumenate: We offer a process affectionately called R.C.I.C. to children 3rd grade and above who have not received Baptism and/or 1st Eucharist. If you have a child that has this need, please contact my office for details. Classes begin in the fall.

THANK YOU / THANK YOU! To Ted Baer and his crew and the Knights of Columbus for another year of outstanding 'pancake flipping'. These devoted volunteers once again made our Annual Pancake Breakfast a great, and yummy success!

Mark Your Calendars:

Sept. 13th: 1st Day of Sunday Morning Classes AND

Mandatory Parent Mtg.

Sept 13th: Parish Picnic – OLR Site // Rel. Ed. Sponsored  
Craft Booth

Sept 20th: Reg. Classes // Catechetical Sunday

(Commissioning of Cats. at 9am SAG & 10:30 OLR Masses

Sept 27th: No Classes // Local Holiday

*For information on any of the items listed, please contact Susan Clingingsmith,  
Dir. of Rel. Ed. at [youth@paloaltocatholic.org](mailto:youth@paloaltocatholic.org) or 650-494-2496 x25.*