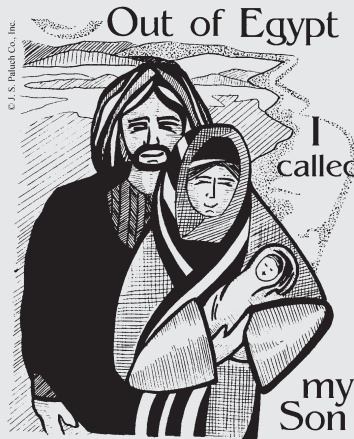


# The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

## MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

### TRUST IN GOD

Saint Matthew's account of the flight into Egypt takes center stage today as we continue to follow the story of the Holy Family. Once again the angel of the Lord appears to Joseph in a dream, telling him to take the child Jesus and his mother to Egypt. Joseph heeds the command and takes them on what must have been a strenuous journey. Saint Matthew does not give us any of the details, but we can only imagine what this journey must have been like. Where did they eat? Where did they find shelter? What were the roads like? Was Joseph able to find work? The Holy Family survived in no small measure because they put their trust in God. This is exactly what today's feast calls us, God's holy family, to do.



## MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 30:  
10:30 am OLR .. William Hiegel †  
*Readings: Sir 3:2-7, 12-14; Ps 128; Col 3:12-21 [12-17]; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23*

Monday, December 31: St. Sylvester I  
7:15 am .....  
8:30 am ..... William Hiegel †  
12:15 pm .....  
*Readings: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18*

Tuesday, January 1: The Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God  
7:15 am, 8:30 am, 12:15 pm  
*Readings: Nm 6:22-27; Ps. 67; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21*

Wednesday, January 2: Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen  
7:15 am, 8:30 am, 12:15 pm  
*Readings: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28*

Thursday, January 3: The Most Holy Name of Jesus  
7:15 am .....  
8:30 am ..... William Hiegel †  
12:15 pm .....  
*Readings: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Jn 1:29-34*

Friday, January 4: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton  
7:15 am .....  
8:30 am ..... William Hiegel †  
12:15 pm .....  
*Readings: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42*

Saturday, January 5: St. John Neumann  
12:15 pm, 5:00 pm SAG  
*Readings: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Jn 1:43-51*

## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Today is St. Vincent de Paul Sunday, the fifth Sunday of the month. The second collection today is for the St. Vincent de Paul Conference, here in St. Thomas Aquinas Parish. The donations given help Palo Alto residents. This is a situation which occurs frequently in our city. Marcia called the help line asking for financial help with her utilities. One of our workers returned her call but Marcia had fallen and she was not home; she was in the hospital emergency room. When the worker spoke with her she learned that Marcia is on Social Security Disability. She receives \$400.00 per month from Social Security. She has \$14.00 in her checking account. She has two sons living with her, ages 27 and 29 years who are not gainfully employed. St. Vincent de Paul provides emergency services: we will help her with her utilities bill and provide her with food. For her long term needs we will connect her with a social service agency that provides long term help.

## PLEASE PRAY

**FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** — Sophie Bandur, Sue Clingingsmith, Hong Chang Liu, Raelene Garrido, Nancy Condon, James Dalton, Nicholas Humy, Mary Hansen, Jack Youngs, Joel Roberts, Jerry Martinson, Carole Smith, Danny Schandler, John Patrick Kullman, Robert Gaspich, Chet Maksim, Devin Wakefield, John Christensen, Marian Partelov

**FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED** — Jean Pounders, John Rooney, Rick Chau, Edward Vierra, Paul Piskaty, Stewart Greene, Kathleen Gogarty, Alvin Fischer, Tom Jaworowski

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)

## PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

Saturday & Sunday January 5 & 6, 2007

**St. Albert the Great**  
Sat 5:00 pm ..... Fr. Medina  
Sun 9:00 am ..... Fr. Aranha

**St. Thomas Aquinas**  
Sun 7:30 am ..... Fr. Hester  
Sun 8:45 am ..... Fr. Marini  
Sun 10:30 am ..... Fr. Aranha  
Sun 12 noon ..... Fr. Nahoe

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

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

BULLETIN ..... ARTICLE DUE  
Jan 13.... **Thur** Jan 3 noon  
Jan 20... **Thur** Jan 10 noon



## Our Weekly Offering

December 9 ..... \$ 12,645.48  
Religious Retirement ... \$ 5,087.00  
*thank you for your continued generosity*

## Year To Date

Actual YTD... \$ 229,313.28  
Budget YTD .. \$ 233,858.89  
Variance ..... - 1.94%

# December 30, 2007

## THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, December 30: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph  
*No Religious Education – resumes Jan 6*  
*No STAYouth – resumes Jan 6*

Monday, December 31:

Tuesday, January 1: The Octave Day of Christmas; World Day of Prayer for Peace; New Year's Day; *Pastoral Center Closed*

Wednesday, January 2:

6:00 pm..... SOUP (OLRH)  
7:00 pm..... Comm. Life (SAGC)  
7:30 pm..... RCIA (PC)  
7:30 pm..... Transitions (PC)

Thursday, January 3:

10:00 am..... Scripture Study Group (SAGC)  
7:00 pm..... Widows/Widowers (SAGC)

Friday, January 4: First Friday

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

Saturday, January 5: First Saturday

8:30 am..... Liturgy Board (SAGH)  
9:00 am..... Living Compassion (STAH)

*Second Collection this weekend:*

..... *St. Vincent de Paul*

*Second Collection next weekend:*

..... *Ethnic Minorities in Latin America*

## THE CATECHUMENATE (RCIA)

Anyone who is thinking about becoming a Catholic Christian, or who would like more information or update about the Catholic Church please contact Jean Ramacciotti 650 494-2496 x34.

## PARISHIONER ON TV

Our Manuel Romero, singer and songwriter who is becoming more and more famous, appears on Jean's Christmas Special until January 11 on Channel 30. Check the Daily News for "Spirit Talk", or [www.communitymediacenter.net](http://www.communitymediacenter.net). for the show times on the Sundays-Fridays.

## UPCOMING PARISH & DIOCESE EVENTS

**WEDNESDAY JANUARY 2ND – TRANSITIONS** 7:30 pm at the Pastoral Center. Transitions is a drop-in support group for those who are undergoing the transition from couple-hood to single-hood. If you or someone you know has suffered the breakup of a marriage or significant relationship, this group may be helpful. More info: [www.paloaltocatholic.org/AofA.html](http://www.paloaltocatholic.org/AofA.html) or contact Randy Jones, 408.739.2881, [transitions@paloaltocatholic.org](mailto:transitions@paloaltocatholic.org).

**THURSDAY JANUARY 3RD – WIDOW/WIDOWERS FIRST MEETING OF THE YEAR** Members and newcomers are invited to our first meeting of the year of the St. Thomas Widows and Widowers group, Thursday, January 3, 7 p.m. at St. Albert's Hall. Dessert served. Also come to the popular Drop-In Dinner at Fresh Choice restaurant, Mountain View, January 17, 5:30 p.m., no reservations necessary. Christmas Dinner at Mike's Café, Menlo Park was a huge success despite the rain and we thank owner Mike Wallau, a parishioner, for excellent cuisine and service. Father George attended when gifts were exchanged at the home of Jeanne Ramos. Kudos also to Georgette Hagan for planning and providing after-dinner candy packets. Carmen Biland and Jean Gac added with Planning and table décor.

If you have suffered the loss of a spouse, we welcome you with our support, companionship and attendance at theatre productions, dinners and cultural events. For information: Carmen, (650) 851-8844.

## VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION RECEPTION

In appreciation for all that parish volunteers do throughout the year, Fr. George, Fr. Tony and the parish staff invite all volunteers and their guests to a reception on Saturday, February 16, 2008, at SESS auditorium following the 5:00 Mass. Heavy hors d'oeuvres will be provided.

Volunteers are asked to sign up for the event by calling the office of the volunteer coordinator, 650-494-2496 Ext. 15, and leaving on voice mail their name and the number of people in their party who will be attending. This phone registration will continue until Saturday, January 19.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PRE-K – 5TH GRADE

~ ~ *Wishing you and yours a Happy & Joyous New Year!* ~ ~

**Let The Children Come To Me:** As we settle in for the new year, remembering fondly of all the excitement of the Christmas Season, let us take the time to think about how our lives will be changed in this coming year. How will our prayer life improve? How will our time with our family talking and sharing about faith increase? Will we commit to making mass regularly? Maybe this year the family can learn about and commit to reciting one of the many novenas within our church. Take the time to share with the family and see what everyone would like to do. How will you encourage each other to continue your choice throughout the year?

**Mark Your Calendars** for Jan.: 01/06th – Reg. classes resume for the children and Parent Faith Sharing // 01/13th – Reg. classes for the children and Parent Sac. Prep. Mtg. // 01/20th – F.I.G. // 01/27th – reg. classes

**Children's Cat. Classes (R.C.I.C.):** These classes are for those children 3rd grade through high school who are in need of the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. Grades 3rd through 6th meet Weds. eves. at the Dermody Center from 5pm – 6pm and those 7th grade and older meet Weds. eves. at Dermody Center from 6:30pm – 7:30pm. We resume classes on January 9th.

*Susan Clingsmith, Director of Religious Education, 650-494-2496 ext. 25, [youth@paloaltocatholic.org](mailto:youth@paloaltocatholic.org)*

# St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Spiritual Care Service at Stanford Hospital is seeking volunteers to visit and pray with 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 on five Monday evenings: March 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31, 2008, 7-9 pm.

If you're – a compassionate listener; a creative thinker able to follow rules and procedures; sensitive to the needs of others; a selfless giver (hopefully two hours of your time each week); empathetic and encouraging; open-minded, yet grounded within your own faith practice; teachable – you may be just the person.

Please RSVP by calling the Spiritual Care Service office at 650 723 5101 or email [grollingsworth@stanfordmed.org](mailto:grollingsworth@stanfordmed.org) and leave your name, phone number.

## STAYOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

### **YOUTH [middle school (6–8), high school (9–12), confirmation (8–high school)]**

St. Thomas Aquinas Youth (STAY) [www.paloaltocatholic.org/STAY/](http://www.paloaltocatholic.org/STAY/)

Happy New Year! Our next STAY sessions for both levels will be January 6, 2008, the feast of Epiphany and the close of the Christmas season!

**Youth Mass...**Jan. 13 @ 7pm OLR. High School will plan the liturgy. Middle School will plan the desserts/refreshments after mass. Our teen Youth Leadership Team will be recognized and commissioned during mass.

**Matt Maher's band to Holy Family Parish for ADORE 2007 Worship Tour** on Tuesday, January 15th at 7pm! Matt Maher is the Nation's leading Catholic Worship Leader for **youth & young adults**. He has played at Steubenville San Diego, NCYC, and other events ( [www.spiritandsong.com/artists/mattmaher](http://www.spiritandsong.com/artists/mattmaher) ). *There is limited seating for this event but we want you to be a part of it.* Tickets will cost \$17.00 per person. RSVP to Rob Manfrey ASAP to reserve tickets.

### **YOUNG ADULTS [college-age, 20s, 30s, early 40s – single/married; w/, w/o children]**

St. Thomas Aquinas Young Adults [www.paloaltocatholic.org/STAY/](http://www.paloaltocatholic.org/STAY/)

**Diocesan Young Adult Retreat, "Unlocking Your Inner Spirit" - Jan. 4-6**, sponsored by SpiritSite, our Catholic Spirituality Center, conducted by Fr. Kevin Joyce, PhD., along with Nancy Le, Alex Vo, & Robert Victor Miole. [www.spiritsite.org](http://www.spiritsite.org). Retreat at Villa Maria del Mar, 2-1918 East Cliff Drive, Santa Cruz. ([www.villamariadelmar.org](http://www.villamariadelmar.org))

**Matt Maher's band to Holy Family Parish for ADORE 2007 Worship Tour** – please see above for event details.

**STAY Young Adults** – Thurs., Jan. 24 – 7:00pm social; 7:30 session. St. Albert the Great Center, 1095 Channing Ave., PA, 94301. Your parish needs YOU!!!

**Theology On Tap is back...**Sun., Jan. 27 – "Learning Forgiveness", featuring Sr. Rebecca Shinas from St. Simon. 6pm at MacArthur Park, 27 University Ave., Palo Alto, 94301.

**Monthly YA Mass** – Tues, Jan. 29 – Teaching Mass w/ Fr. Nathan from the Catholic Community at Stanford. 7:30pm, St. Nicholas School. Join us for a more intimate liturgy with introductions, music ministry, dialogue homily, and fellowship after mass. See the young adult page of our STAY web site for a map link.

**DEANERY 2 YOUNG ADULTS** [www.YoungAdultCircle.org](http://www.YoungAdultCircle.org) Young Adults from our local parishes gather regularly for social, spiritual, service, and sports. Register online for our weekly e-newsletter for the latest and greatest info.

*Rob Manfrey, Youth & Young Adult Coordinator; 650-494-2496 ext. 21, [STAYouth@paloaltocatholic.org](mailto:STAYouth@paloaltocatholic.org)*

## SAG SITE COMMITTEE REPORT

Quarterly July-September 2007:

1. Representatives to the PSC retreat reported on the events / outcome of the meeting. We now begin our meetings with some faith sharing / prayer as recommended from the retreat.

2. The need for more volunteers at St. Alberts has prompted several pulpit pleas. We are in need of ministers, Lectors, greeters, bulletin board monitors, etc. This need inspired SAG to hold a mini ministry fair in August. There were Eucharistic minister and Lector training sessions in September and October.

3. The Mission Statement for the SAG site committee is currently being reviewed, rewritten, and updated.

4. Some concern has arisen over the projector screen and how it blocks the Blessed Mother. We've decided to have the screen down only during mass. The music group is now responsible for raising the screen after the 5 PM and 9 AM masses.

5. Our sound system continues to be problematic. The problem will be solved once the Font is installed. One of our members suggested an inexpensive speaker system that could be installed as a temporary solution.

6. An architect has been chosen for the font. We await approval on the ambry, ambo, balcony, and windows. Susan Adams has been asked to join the A & E Diocesan Committee.

6. Paul Prochaska and Chris Lundin are alternating the music for the 5 PM mass. Chris welcomes any feedback / opinions on this set up.

7. We discussed the New Comer's Dinner, and the need for more volunteers in that area.

8. We discussed the possibility of a Thank You dinner / potluck for all our laypeople.

9. The committee unanimously agreed that the blessing of the priest by the parishioners was a beautiful and moving addition to the mass on Priesthood Sunday last year, and thought that it should be repeated this year.

*Kathleen Hart, Site Committee Chair*