

Second Sunday of Easter

TODAY'S MESSAGE

SO THAT YOU MAY BELIEVE

It is not often that the author of one of the books of the Bible comes right out and tells us directly why he is writing what he is writing. In this Sunday's Gospel reading, taken from the conclusion of John's Gospel, the author tells us that he has chosen to record these events so "that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name" (20:31).



The letter of John echoes this idea by saying that "[e]veryone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is begotten by God" (5:1)—what we might refer to as being "born again." Our reading from the Acts of the Apostles for this Second Sunday of Easter shows us exactly what it looks like when believers are born again through faith.

2009 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL



We sincerely thank all of those who have so generously supported our parish and our local Church through the 2009 Annual Diocesan Appeal. A gift on behalf of our diocesan family benefits not only the least of our brothers and sisters but also ourselves. To date, 321 pledges from our parishioners have contributed \$104,989 or 90.1% towards our goal of \$116,250. We are very grateful for the support of all our parishioners who have been so generous. This is our once-a-year opportunity to show the Diocese our support—and we have done just that. Thank you for your help in this most important parish-wide endeavor by faithfully walking with Christ and listening to His call to share our gifts with others.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, April 19:

Readings: Acts 4:32-35; Ps 118; 1 Jn 5:1-6;
Jn 20:19-31

Monday, April 20:

8:30 am Holy Souls in Purgatory
Readings: Acts 4:23-31; Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday, April 21: St. Anselm

Readings: Acts 4:32-37; Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday, April 22:

Readings: Acts 5:17-26; Jn 3:16-21

Thursday, April 23: St. George; St. Adalbert

8:30 am John & Frances
Kocikowski Family †

Readings: Acts 5:27-33; Jn 3:31-36

Friday, April 24: St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen

Readings: Acts 5:34-42; Jn 6:1-11

Saturday, April 25: St. Mark

5:00 pm SAG ... Richard Chudzinski †
Readings: 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Mk 16:15-20

MASS SCHEDULE CHANGE

Please note on April 19th, the Sunday morning **Mass at St. Albert the Great** will begin at **10:00 am**, NOT 9:00 am in order to accommodate all of our 2nd graders receiving their 1st Communion that day. This time change is only for this one day.

PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

Saturday & Sunday April 25 & 26, 2009

St. Albert the Great

Sat 5:00 pm Fr. Gutiérrez

Sun 9:00 am Fr. Aranha

St. Thomas Aquinas

Sun 7:30 am Fr. Hester

Sun 8:45 am Fr. Wright

Sun 10:30 am Fr. Gutiérrez

Sun 12 noon TBA

Our Lady of the Rosary

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

Sun 10:30 am Fr. Aranha



Please Pray

FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND — Nancy Condon, Nicholas Humy, Chet Maksim, Devin Wakefield, Cypress Winters, Fr. Charlie Macedo, Carole Stuart, Mary Harvey, Rita McAlester, Sherry Kruep, Carson Enghardt, John Martin, Joseph Seebach, Bill Belcher, Tony Artero, Maria de Jesus Gutierrez, Jim Chinn, Maria Nieves Pedron

FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED — Brian Franklin, Alan McPherson, Lena DeFrenza, Fr. Charles Dougherty, Fr. Barry Freyne, Frances Kral, Kirk Martin, Elayne Doyle, Jack Morrisroe, Rowena Rameris, John Ruhm

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

Please note our email address:
bulletin@paloaltocatholic.org

BULLETIN ARTICLE DUE
May 3 ... **Thu** Apr 23 noon
May 10 .. **Thu** Apr 30 noon



Our Weekly Offering

March 22 \$ 9,050.92
Catholic Relief Services \$ 5,295.00
thank you for your continued generosity

Year To Date

Actual YTD .. \$ 443,532.55
Budget YTD .. \$ 468,258.83
Variance - 5.28%

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, April 19: Second Sunday of Easter; Divine Mercy Sunday; Orthodox Easter
10:00 am Mass . . . First Communion (SAG)

Monday, April 20:

7:30 pm Medjugorje Group (KC)

7:30 pm RCIA (PC)

Tuesday, April 21: Yom Ha-Shoa
(Holocaust Remembrance Day)

Wednesday, April 22: Earth Day;
Administrative Professionals Day

Thursday, April 23:

11:00 am Donor Party – Seton
School (SAGH)

7:00 pm First Communion (PC)

Friday, April 24: Arbor Day

7:00 pm Young Adult (OLRH)

Saturday, April 25:

all day Field Spring Festival
(SESS)

Second Collection this weekend:

. St. Elizabeth Seton School

Second Collection next weekend:

. Home Missions

CHRIST IS HERE

Christ departed from our sight that we might return to our heart, and there find him. For he departed, and behold, he is here.

—St. Augustine

ON THE DEATH PENALTY

On April 1 about 40 people attended a movie "The Empty Chair" about the feelings of family members of murder victims and retributive vs. restorative justice. A speaker, Mary Kay Rafferty, a parishioner in Holy Spirit Parish, San Jose, told of the murder of her son. Co-sponsored by the parish Human Concerns Committee, Death Penalty Focus and California People of Faith Working Against the Death Penalty.

UPCOMING PARISH & DIOCESE EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22 – ASTRONOMY LECTURE AND DINNER Meet at 5:45 for a light dinner at Pasta Market. Then carpool at 6:30 to Foothill College. The Lecture begins at 7. Margaret Race (SETI Institute) will give a talk entitled "Protecting the Earth and Other Planets". Visitors must purchase a campus parking permit for \$2. Parking lots 1, 3, 5 and 6 provide access to the theater. The college is located on El Monte Rd at I-280. Dinner 5:45 pm, carpool 6:30 pm, lecture 7:00 pm. Cost: Whatever you spend for dinner, plus your share of the \$2 parking fee. Lecture is FREE! Location: Dinner & Carpool: The Pasta Market, 4546 El Camino Real, Suite A7, Los Altos, CA 94022 More info: Contact Carrie Karnos, ckarnos@yahoo.com, call Randy on 408.739.2881, or visit paloaltocatholic.org/AofA.html.

SATURDAY, APRIL 25 – MONTHLY SUMMER STAR PARTY The FIRST Peninsula Astronomical Society Star Party of the season is Saturday, April 25. Bring your telescope and/or binoculars (if you have them) and a picnic dinner. While the sun sets and twilight deepens, we'll have our picnic and get our telescopes set up. 7:30 pm gathering at the Park'n'Ride till ~10:30 pm. Please note: New admittance policy in 2009: The Park entrance will close at 8:00 pm, so don't be late or you won't get in! More info: paloaltocatholic.org/AofA.html or contact Randy Jones, 408.739.2881, age-of-aquinas@paloaltocatholic.org, or Carrie Karnos, ckarnos@yahoo.com.

SUNDAY, APRIL 26 – PARISH GARDEN PARTY TO HONOR ARLEN HAGEN The parish has been blessed with Arlen Hagen, who created, developed and maintains the lovely garden for all parishioners to enjoy The Iris will be in bloom and the roses too! The Community Life group invites all to come and show our appreciation to Arlen for his dedication to our parish. Save Sunday April 26th from 1 – 3 pm. Enjoy refreshments and a walk in the parish garden behind the pastoral center at 3290 Middlefield Road.

SUNDAY, APRIL 26 – GIRL SCOUT COLLECTION Palo Alto Girl Scout Troop 60585 will be collecting new or gently used stuffed animals for their Community Service Project. The Girl Scouts will donate the stuffed animals to the charity Animal Beacons of Light. The toys will be distributed to orphanages, nursing homes and shelters where people young and old can use something soft to hug. There will be collection boxes in the vestibules of each church on Sunday, April 26. Please bring any soft toy smaller than two feet high that you can share with a person in need. Please no war themed or commercial characters. If you cannot bring the toys to Mass, they may be dropped off at 54 Morton Way. Parishioners Katie Passarello & Alix Barry thank you for your generosity.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29 – MASS FOR WORLD PEACE AND JUSTICE

Wednesday, April 29 at 7:30pm Our Lady of the Rosary Church 3233 Cowper Street, Palo Alto. Special Reflection on Immigration Justice by Fr. Jon Pedigo. People of all faiths and traditions are welcome to share this time of prayer for world peace, and understanding and just treatment for immigrants throughout the world. A reception follows. For more info. call Nora (650) 494-2496 x.14 or email: liturgy@paloaltocatholic.org. Sponsored by the Catholic Parishes of Mountain View, Los Altos, Palo Alto and Stanford.

April 19, 2009

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



OUT-REACH As Catholics, we are called to live out our faith in community. The opportunities for getting involved and making a difference in the lives around us are limitless! While our society often promotes individualism, the Catholic Church teaches that we grow and achieve fulfillment in community (Sharing Catholic Social Teaching: Challenges and Directions, #5). Take time this month to help others learn more about or feel a part of your parish community of faith. You can reach out to those who are inactive or to those who are isolated because of health issues. Jesus said, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." Based on Matthew 4:19

- Ask your children to invite a friend to Mass or to a church activity.
- Make Spring cards for homebound parishioners who cannot come to Mass.
- Watch a movie with a theme of helping and/or sharing with others.

Congratulations 1st Communicants!: To all those who received their 1st Communion at St. Albert the Great site this weekend! As a community let us continue to show them the reverence and respect we all hold dear in our hearts for our Lord each time we receive the Blessed Sacrament. And a very blessed thank you to the incredible people who helped prepare the children, especially their Catechists; Florence deBretagne, Tara Feldermeier and Tim O'Konski. The children's in-depth preparation was accomplished through their love, dedication, long hours and devotion. Please keep them and all of our Catechists in our prayers as we continue sharing and learning about our faith through the end of this school year. There's still lots to learn!

1st Communicants: Please keep in your prayers all of the children who have prepared so diligently during the year and are now ready to receive their 1st Communion at Our Lady of the Rosary site next weekend, Sunday, April 26th during the 10:30am mass.

Mark Your Calendars:

April 26th Reg. Classes ~ SAG

1st Communion ~ OLR (10:30 mass)

May 3rd Reg. Classes ~ F.I.G. ~ Fun In The Gospel (not optional)

& May Crowning ~ SAG 9am mass & OLR 10:30 mass

May 10th No Classes ~ Mother's Day

May 17th Reg. Classes & 5th Grade Cross-Over ~ SAG 9am mass / OLR 10:30 mass

May 24th No Classes ~ Memorial Day

May 31st Last Day of Class