

# Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## TODAY'S MESSAGE

OBSTACLES – The prophet Ezekiel, Saint Paul, and the Lord Jesus share something in common in today's scripture readings. They all experience obstacles to their ministry. Ezekiel is summoned to prophesy to the Israelites, who are "[h]ard of face and obstinate of heart" (Ezekiel 2:4). Saint Paul recounts how he has been given a "thorn in the flesh" (2 Corinthians 12:7). The Lord Jesus is unable to perform many signs in his native place. The Gospel tells us that "[he] was amazed at their lack of faith" (Mark 6:6). We, too, sometimes encounter obstacles as we travel along the journey of faith. So often we experience weakness on this journey. Let the words of the Lord to Saint Paul encourage us today: "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Corinthians 12:9).

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Last week's Treasure mentioned the "Nuns of the Battlefield," religious sisters from several communities who served as nurses in the Civil War. Florence Nightingale had only instituted female nurses a decade before in the Crimean War, so the idea of women tending to wounded soldiers was extraordinary. The medical and sanitary conditions on the battlefields were appalling, and the sisters were nearly all teachers. Few had any medical training beyond what they had learned as youngsters in the family. Anti-Catholic prejudice was so deeply entrenched in America that sisters could not wear their habits in public. These sisters were the first, and people on both the Union and Confederate sides soon began to marvel at their bravery, efficiency, and respect for Protestant soldiers. More than six hundred sisters from twenty-one communities went to war, serving in wretched conditions. They were tough and singleminded, efficient and fearless.

After the war, sisters could appear in public everywhere in the reunited nation, and often received the praise and gratitude of grateful soldiers and family members on behalf of their sister nurses. An outdoor monument to the "Nuns of the Battlefield" stands in Washington at M Street and Rhode Island Avenue. The inscription reads: "They comforted the dying, nursed the wounded, carried hope to the imprisoned, gave in His name a drink of water to the thirsty."

—Rev. James Field, © J. S. Paluch Co.

## MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, July 5:

Readings: Ez 2:2-5; Ps 123; 2 Cor 12:7-10; Mk 6:1-6a

Monday, July 6: St. Maria Goretti

Readings: Gn 28:10-22a; Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday, July 7:

8:30 am OLR . . . James & Edith Dubbs

12:15 pm STA . . . Joseph Konesnik †

Readings: Gn 32:23-33; Mt 9:32-38

Wednesday, July 8:

12:15 pm STA . . . Joan Anthonien †

Readings: Gn 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a; Mt 10:1-7

Thursday, July 9: St. Augustine Zhao Rong and his companions

Readings: Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5; Mt 10:7-15

Friday, July 10:

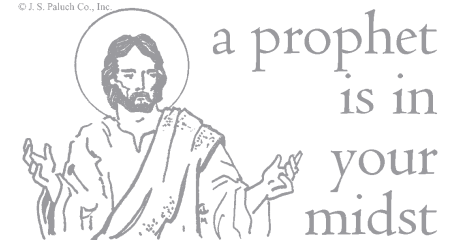
12:15 pm STA . . . Dec. Members of Carney & Bolich Families

Readings: Gn 46:1-7, 28-30; Mt 10:16-23

Saturday, July 11: St. Benedict

Readings: Gn 49:29-32; 50:15-26a; Mt 10:24-33

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## PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

Saturday & Sunday July 11 & 12, 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 . . . . . Msgr. Boyle

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

Sun 12 noon . . . . . Fr. Ramalow

Our Lady of the Rosary

Sun 9:00 am (español) . . Fr. Aranha

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



### Please Pray

**FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** — Nicholas Humy, Devin Wakefield, Cypress Winters, Fr. Charlie Macedo, Mary Harvey, Rita McAlester, Carson Enghardt, Bill Belcher, Tony Artero, Jim Chinn, Bobby Kerrigan, Frankie Briggs, Theodore Strotman, Barbara Franceschi, Norman Swope, Robert Jordan, Virginia Jordan, Laura Simeone, Alan Shpalo

**FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED** — Kirk Martin, Elayne Doyle, Jack Morrisroe, Rowena Ramires, John Ruhm, Maria Nieves Pedron, Irene Placone, Ed Paczkowski, Alden Erickson, Chet Maksim, Antoni Bozynski, Gilbert Huesca, Rosalie Martin-Veque

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)



### Our Weekly Offering

June 7 . . . . . \$ 9,850.47  
thank you for your continued generosity

### Year To Date

Actual YTD . . \$ 586,099.73  
Budget YTD . . \$ 612,990.30  
Variance . . . . . - 4.39%

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

BULLETIN . . . . . ARTICLE DUE  
Jul 19 . . . . . **Thu** Jul 9 noon  
Jul 26 . . . . . **Thu** Jul 16 noon

# St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

## THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, July 5: Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
3:00 pm ..... Hispanic Young Adults (OLRH)

Monday, July 6:  
7:30 pm ..... Medjugorje Group (KC)

Tuesday, July 7:

Wednesday, July 8:  
7:00 pm ..... PSC (SAGC or OLRH)

Thursday, July 9:

Friday, July 10:  
7:00 pm ..... Young Adult (OLRH)

Saturday, July 11:  
8:00 am ..... Car wash/Young adults (PC)

## PLEA FOR SVDP WORKERS

"Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison and visit you? Amen I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:37-41.

During these very difficult economic times, St. Thomas Aquinas St. Vincent de Paul is in great need of more helpers. For anyone interested, our existing volunteers would provide you a complete orientation and allow you to sit in on a number of interactions, to actually experience how we work with our clients. If you can give four hours of your time per week to help those among us who are less fortunate, please call or e-mail Roberta Uebbing, uebbing665@sbcglobal.net or 494-2450.

## PARISHIONER NEWS

Parishioners Terry McCaffrey and Helen Baumann have been named as President and Chief Financial Officer, respectively, of California People of Faith Working Against the Death Penalty. Both have been active in seeking Palo Alto, Santa Clara County and state resolutions opposing capital punishment. Terry, a member of the parish Human Concerns Committee is an adviser to the diocesan Human Concerns Committee and serves on the board of the county Council of Churches and the Interfaith Council. Helen has served on the Pastoral Stewardship Council and the board of the Thomas Merton Center. Currently, she is the volunteer coordinator of the STA Site Committee.

## AGE OF AQUINAS

**EVERY SATURDAY – SHORELINE PARK HIKE AND COFFEE** Meet at Lakeside Café in Mountain View's Shoreline Park near the breezeway between the café and the Aquatic Center at 9 am. This is a hike on mostly level, mostly paved paths. Afterwards gather at the café around 10:00 for coffee or brunch. We always hike, rain or shine! [www.paloaltocatholic.org/AofA.html](http://www.paloaltocatholic.org/AofA.html) or contact Randy Jones, 408-739-2881, [age-of-aquinas@paloaltocatholic.org](mailto:age-of-aquinas@paloaltocatholic.org)

**SATURDAY, JULY 11 – EDGEWOOD PARK HIKE AND COFFEE – REDWOOD CITY** On the 2nd Saturday this month only due to the holiday last week! Meet in the INNER parking lot of Edgewood Park at 9 am. This is a hike that will take you up and down, in sun and shade, amidst grasses, trees and wildflowers, for about an hour and a quarter. Afterwards gather for coffee at a nearby eatery about 10:30 am. Look for the "Age of Aquinas \*\*\* Gather Here" sign. Email: Randy, [age-of-aquinas@paloaltocatholic.org](mailto:age-of-aquinas@paloaltocatholic.org), or call Josephine 650.619.4024.

**SATURDAY, JULY 11 – LOS GATOS CREEK TRAIL HIKE & COFFEE – LOS GATOS** Meet in front of the Purple Onion café, 26 E Main St, Los Gatos, CA 95030 at 9:45 am. Parking can be found in public lots along University and Santa Cruz Aves. Exercise level of this walk is "ambitious" and takes about 90 minutes round trip. After the hike there is the option of coffee or tea at one of the cafés near the trailhead on Main St in Los Gatos. Email: Elise, [elisefranck@hotmail.com](mailto:elisefranck@hotmail.com), or call 408.335.9159.

## YOU HAVE TO BE RICH TO BE POOR

(From the Washington Post May 18, provided by Catholic Media Report) "You have to be rich to be poor. That's what some people who have never lived below the poverty line don't understand. The poorer you are, the more things cost. More in money, time, hassle, exhaustion, menace. This is a fact of life that reality television and magazines don't often explain. So consider this a primer on the economics of poverty. 'The poor pay more for a gallon of milk, they pay more on a capital basis for inferior housing,' says Rep. Earl Blumenauer, D-Ore. 'The poor and 100 million who are struggling for the middle class actually end up paying more for transportation, for housing, for health care, for mortgages. They get steered to subprime lending. The poor pay more for things middle-class America takes for granted.'" – Human Concerns Committee

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# July 5, 2009

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## HOTEL DE ZINK

Our parish will be taking food to the homeless guests who will be staying at the Christian Reformed Church during the month of August. We will be donating the food from August 16th thru August 31st. I will be rotating from church to church during the month of July to give parishioners an opportunity to sign up to bring food. If you miss signing up at Mass, please call Ruth Chippendale at 856-6350. Thanks for your help.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Gospel Summary : Mark 6:1-6 - Our hearts go out to Jesus in this gospel because we feel his pain when his own family and friends reject him. The news of Jesus' miracles and healings had by now spread throughout the region and when he returned to Nazareth to teach in the synagogue, the people there were unbelieving. How, they wondered, could someone as common as a laborer have such authority from God? Sadly, Jesus could not do the wondrous work of God in his own home town. There are not further times recorded in the gospels that Jesus entered another synagogue after the rejection he experienced in Nazareth.

Reflection for Families : How many times do we shy away from saying what we know to be the truth? We may see a co-worker, a relative, or friend making some poor decisions. Or we may witness injustices in our society. It's easier to turn our heads in the other direction and not get involved. After all, our lives are going fairly well and someone else's mistakes or misfortunes don't really affect us. But don't they? We are answerable first to God, but we also need to keep in mind that our children are watching (and will eventually imitate) our every move. As difficult as it is, it is our responsibility to show them how to be strong and courageous even when our words and actions might be unpopular.

Bringing the Gospel into Your Family : Name some people in your own community, or elsewhere in the world, who have at least some of the qualities of a prophet. Consider whether or not these people have been rejected for things they have said. Who has benefited from their words? Find a way as a family to support, either physically or in prayer, at least one of the world's prophets.

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. Our classes will begin in the fall.

*Wishing you all a wonderful, blessed, safe, healthy, fun-filled summer!*

*For info on any of the items listed, please contact Susan Clingingsmith,  
Dir. of Rel. Ed. at youth@paloaltocatholic.org or 650-494-2496 x25.*