October 2, 2025

Saint Thomas Aquinas Bulletin

St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Albert the Great, and Our Lady of the Rosary

Heartfelt Thanks for Our Annual Parish Picnic

A Joyful Day of Fellowship, Food, and Faith

Dear Beloved Parishioners and Volunteers,
We extend our deepest thanks to each of you who made our Annual Parish Picnic on September 28 a radiant celebration of faith, fellowship, and community. Your presence, generosity, and tireless efforts transformed this gathering into a beautiful reflection of our shared mission as one parish family. "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." (Galatians 6:9)

To our incredible volunteers, your dedication in planning, setting up, grilling hamburgers, organizing games, and ensuring every detail sparkled was a true gift. Your selflessness brought joy to every heart and made the day seamless and memorable. To those who contributed to our potluck lunch, your delicious appetizers, sides, and desserts—along with the bountiful garden surplus shared—created a feast that nourished both body and soul.

To everyone who joined us at the 10:00 AM Unity Mass and stayed to laugh, connect, and celebrate, your vibrant spirit united our three sites into one joyful family. Your smiles, conversations, and shared moments of fellowship embodied the love of Christ, making this picnic a powerful start to our Pastoral Year.

Special thanks also to those who supported our DSJ Diocesan Layette Program by donating diapers at the picnic. Your generosity is already making a difference for new mothers in need.
Your contributions, whether through time, talent, or treasure, are a testament to the strength and love within our parish. Together, we've created memories that will inspire us as we continue to grow in faith and service.

Thank you for making this day a shining light in our community. We look forward to seeing you at future gatherings, where we'll continue to build God's kingdom together.

Parish Administration

Caren
XXII
Laura

St. Thomas Aquinas

WELCOME TO
ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH
OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CHURCH
Desserts & Sweets

SPECTRUM

STA 2025 Youth Retreat

November 7-9, Mount Hermon in Felton, CA

8th to 12th grades are invited o the annual STA Youth Retreat in the beautiful Santa Cruz Mountains. This is a time set apart for prayer, reflection, and building deeper friendships rooted in Christ. Surrounded by God's creation, our middle and high schoolers will have the chance to grow in faith, encounter the Lord in a new way, and return renewed and strengthened. Questions? Contact Youth Ministry Coordinator Miguelangel Cardenas: miguelangel.cardenas@dsj.org

Thank you Ana Maria Flores-Velez for An Amazing Talk to the Youth Groups on Friday 9/26

Ana Maria delivered a remarkable and inspiring talk to our youth groups on Friday, September 26; reflecting on the young Jesus to ignite their hearts with a renewed desire to follow Christ in their daily lives. "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." (Matthew 19:14)

Her words brought the life and spirit of the young Jesus to life, offering a powerful example of faith, humility, and courage that resonates deeply with our youth. By sharing her insights and passion, Ana Maria helped them see Christ as a relatable guide and companion on their spiritual journey. The enthusiasm and thoughtful questions from our young parishioners after your talk were a testament to the profound impact you made, encouraging them to grow closer to God and to one another as a faith-filled community.

Thank you, Ana Maria, for sharing your gifts and for being a beacon of Christ's love.

LASERMAXX
LET'S PLAY!

Youth Group Laser Tag Outing

This Friday (October 3rd), instead of our regular youth group dinner and meeting, we'll be heading out for a special outing to Laser Tag!

When: Friday, October 3rd, 8:00–9:30 PM
Where: LaserMaxx
1119 Industrial Rd Ste F, San Carlos, CA 94070

Cost: $20 per student

Registration Link: https://giving.myparishsoft.io/App/Form/1432b347-e02e-4642-a7a3-da8fdb3d514f

All the necessary details are in the ParishSOFT form, including the waiver link that must be completed prior to attending. Spots are limited, so please register as soon as possible.

If you have any question, reach out to miguelangel.cardenas@dsj.org

Call for a Projector Coordinator Volunteer.

We're seeking a dedicated volunteer projector operator for the 9:00 AM Sunday Mass at St. Albert the Great. This role helps enhance our worship by displaying hymns and readings, enriching the experience for all. If you feel called to serve in this meaningful way, please contact Fr. Mikalonis at estanislao.mikalonis@dsj.org - Thank you for sharing your gifts to strengthen our parish!

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT de PAUL

This Sundays Second Collection - October 5

This Sunday's second collection will support the Saint Vincent de Paul Society, whose mission is to serve those in need within our community.

Your generosity helps provide food, shelter, and assistance to our neighbors who are struggling. Thank you for your continued support and kindness.

Please Pray for the Sick and Homebound

Sick and Homebound:
Fr. Seth, Lillian Aragon, Bill Morrison, Lauro Quintanar, Enedelia Sandoval, Raul Badua, Winnie McGannon, Xochiti Quintanar, Joan Campbell, Mick Pellazzari, Mena Fu, Nicki Chun, Mary Martinson, Shui Wong, Dan Fillin, Bob Reklis

Recently Deceased:
Brian Dooney, Kathy Finnerty, John Christopher Kelly, Mark Delamater Flanagan, John Arnold, Leticia U Revilla, Eleanor Jane Kelly, Mary Valentine, Mary Frances Johnson, Perri Cebedo, Magdalena Mendez, Susan Adams, Maria Aquilar, Guillermina Garcia

To add a name to a list, you must obtain permission from the person or their family and contact: Mary Fong marytanfong@gmail.com

Join the CROP Hunger Walk

Our annual Mid-Peninsula CROP Hunger Walk will be held on Sunday, Oct 26 at St. Raymond's church in Menlo Park.

We will gather with others in our community to fight hunger locally and around the world. Walkers and Sponsors are needed for our St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Team.

Please see our posters in the church vestibules and use the QR code for further information.

Seton Library Volunteers Needed

With the construction of the SAG Center this summer, we've had to move our library. We're looking for helping hands to get everything reorganized!

We need volunteers to reorganize books and materials, leading small group of helpers, creating a welcoming space for our students, and helping our students visity and enjoy the library once it's complete.

Volunteer dates are **October 20-23**. If you are interested, please contact Principal William Rainford at william.rainford@dsj.org

Annual Winter Collection

Share the Warmth This Winter

As winter approaches, please save your unused sleeping bags, warm blankets and coats for the parish annual collection serving our unhoused neighbors. Watch for collection boxes in the church vestibules and more details in upcoming bulletin

Bishop Cantu's Visits Seton

Wednesday, October 8

We are honored to welcome Bishop Oscar Cantú as he visits St. Elizabeth Seton School this Wednesday, October 8.

All are warmly invited to join us for the 8:15 am Mass at St. Albert the Great Church, where we will come together in prayer and extend a heartfelt welcome to our Bishop.

Confession

St. Albert the Great
Saturday
4:30 PM

St Thomas Aquinas
Saturday
1:30 PM

Rosary

St. Albert the Great
After Daily Mass

Our Lady of the Rosary
Sundays
8:30 AM (Spanish)

Weekday Mass

St. Thomas Aquinas

Monday to Saturday
12:15 PM

St. Albert the Great

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
8:00 AM
Wednesday
8:15 (Seton School Mass)

Our Lady of the Rosary

Weekend Mass

St. Thomas Aquinas

Sunday
7:30 AM
9:00 AM (Thomas Merton Center Community)
11:00 AM (Gregorian Mass)

St. Albert the Great

Saturday
5:00 PM (Vigil)
Sunday
9:00 AM

Our Lady of the Rosary

Sunday
9:00 AM (Español)
10:30 AM (English)

Give Online!

Online giving is simple and easy to use! Scan the QR code for direct access.

Follow us on Instagram

Stay connected with parish life, see what's happening in our ministries, and be inspired by daily faith-filled moments @paloalto_catholic_sta

Get in Touch!

Have questions or need support? Our pastoral staff is here to walk with you in faith—please don't hesitate to reach out and connect with us.

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Estanislao Mikalonis, Pastor. ext. 1
estanislao.mikalonis@dsj.org

Rolando Santoianni, Parochial Vicar, ext. 2
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Deacon Daniel Hernandez
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Mary Lou Savage, Office Administrator, ext. 0
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Tyler Ngo, Director of Faith Formation
tyler.ngo@dsj.org

Miguelangel Cardenas, Youth Minister
miguelangel.cardenas@dsj.org

Mary Fong, Pastoral Home Ministry, ext. 6
marytanfong@gmail.com

Patricia Cruzet, Quinceaneras, Weddings, & Funerals Coordinator, ext. 7. Or (408) 849-0128
patricia.cruzet@dsj.org

"Who Has Learned Your Counsel, Unless You Have Given Wisdom" (Wis 9:17)

Homily of the Holy Father Leo XIV

King Solomon, after the death of his father David, realized the abundance of his wealth and power and raised a question in his heart: "what must I do so that nothing is lost?" He asked God for an even greater gift, the gift of his wisdom, so that he might know God's plans and follow them faithfully. He realized that the greatest risk in life is to waste it outside of God's plan. Jesus says: "Whoever does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple" (Lk 14:27); and again: "none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions" (v.33). Jesus calls us to abandon ourselves to the adventure that He is offering us through the power of the Holy Spirit. We are able to receive God's gifts to the extent that we empty ourselves of things and ideas to which we are attached.

Sometimes, we portray saints as great figures, forgetting that for them all began when they said "yes" to God and gave themselves to Him completely, keeping nothing for themselves. Today, we look to Saint Pier Giorgio Frassati and Saint Carlo Acutis, teenagers from our own day, both in love with Jesus and ready to give everything for Him. Pier Giorgio encountered the Lord through church groups and bore witness to Him with the joy of living, prayer, friendship, and charity. Carlo encountered Jesus in his family, the Sacraments, and parish community. Carlo used to say: "Sadness is looking at yourself; happiness is looking at God." Both had a great devotion to the saints, the Virgin Mary, and practiced charities with generosity.

Dear friends, Saints Pier Giorgio Frassati and Carlo Acutis are an invitation to all of us, especially young people, not to squander our lives, but to direct them upwards and make them masterpieces. They encourage us with their words: "Not I, but God," as Carlo used to say. And Pier Giorgio: "If you have God at the center of all your actions, then you will reach the end." This is the simple but winning formula of their holiness. It is also the type of witness we are called to follow to enjoy life in fullness and meet our Lord in the feast of heaven.

Holy Mass of Canonization of Pier Giorgio Frassati and Carlo Acutis
St. Peter's Square, 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, 7 September 2025
(Teresa Budzich, M.Div.)

LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

WE NEED YOUR HELP WITH OUR SETON SCHOOL LIBRARY!

With construction in the SAG Center this summer, we've had to move our library. We're looking for helping hands to get everything reorganized!

If you're interested in:

- Reorganizing books and materials
- Leading a small group of helpers
- Creating a welcoming space for our students
- (And in the future) Helping our students visit and enjoy the new library once it's complete

Please call the school office

Volunteer dates: October 20th-23rd

St. Elizabeth Seton School

EAGER TO LEARN

READY TO SERVE

EST. 1978

Sponsored by Daughters of Charity

St. Elizabeth Seton School

1095 Channing Ave

650-326-9004

www.setonpaloalto.org

St. Thomas Aquinas

Youth Retreat Nov 7-9 2025 @Mt. Hermon

Register today!

Questions?
Contact Miguelangel Cardenas(youth Coordinator):
Miguelangel.cardenas@dsj.org

2025 *Silent* Ignatian Retreat

Oct 31, Nov 1 & 2
(Fri, Sat & Sun)

Father Ed Broom, OMV,

Renowned retreat master and expert in Ignatian Spirituality, author of 5 books, and guest on EWTN, Fr. Broom looks forward to his "first time ever" retreat in CALIFORNIA'S CENTRAL COAST - in the majestic SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS! As a pre-eminent expert on all things IGNATIAN, Fr. Broom looks forward to imparting the spiritual gems of St. Ignatius at beautiful St. Clare's Retreat.

St. Clare's Retreat
2381 Laurel Glen Road, Soquel, CA 95073
(831) 423-8093

Space is Limited
Reservations Are Required
Secure Your Spot Today
www.stclaresretreat.org

"Come Away and Rest Awhile"
Mark 6:30-34

Experience a peaceful weekend of silence, reflection, and deep spiritual renewal. Guided by the time-tested wisdom of St. Ignatius of Loyola.
This retreat invites you to encounter God personally in the stillness - through Scripture, guided meditations, and the beauty of silence.
Whether your're spiritually seasonsed or simply seeking rest, you'll return home refreshed, grounded and more aware of God's presence in your daily life.

Weekend Retreat Rates:

Single Occupancy Room with private or shared bathroom	$320.00
Double Occupancy Room - per person	$300.00
Saturday Day Commuter (no lodging)	$125.00

Meals Included

St. Clare's Retreat is owned and operated by the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of Sorrows

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

September 24th til November 2nd

HELP SAVE LIVES IN REDWOOD CITY!

You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization to pray and fast for an end to abortion!

Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 1,000,000+ volunteers!

With God's help, here are the proven results in 30 coordinated campaigns:

- Over **25,000** saved babies
- More than **170** closed facilities
- More than **270** converted workers

Here's how to take part in 40 Days for Life in our community:

Vigil location: On sidewalk outside of Planned Parenthood, 2907 El Camino Real, Redwood City

Vigil hours: 7 am to 7 pm daily

Local contact: Jessica, 650-918-9119, email: themunns@yahoo.com

Learn more … get involved … and sign up for prayer times by visiting our campaign at the web address shown below!

40daysforlife.com/redwoodcity

40 DÍAS POR LA VIDA®

24 de septiembre al 2 de noviembre

¡AYUDA A SALVAR VIDAS EN REDWOOD CITY!

Protege a madres y bebes uniéndote a la movilización pro-vida más grande de la historia.

40 Días por la Vida ha logrado tener más de 1,000,000+ voluntarios en 63 países.

Con la ayuda de Dios, aquí están los resultados:

- Más de **25,000** bebés salvados del aborto
- Más de **270** trabajadoras del aborto convertidas
- Más de **170** centros de aborto cerrados

Contribuye a expandir este impacto y forma parte de la campaña de 40 Días por la Vida:

- **Ubicación de la vigilia:** Fuera del centro de abortos de Planned Parenthood ubicada en el 2907 El Camino Real (esquina calle Berkshire) en Redwood City
- **Horas de la vigilia:** 7 am – 7 pm a diario
- **Contacto local:** Elena, teléfono 650-278-9709
- **Aprende más y únete a nosotros:**

40daysforlife.com/redwoodcity

SENIOR SOUP

Join Us For Food & Fellowship

Time: 12:30pm - 2pm

Where St. Albert the Great Hospitality Center

When: 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the Month

All seniors are invited to enjoy a delicious lunch handcrafted by our volunteer chefs. Birthdays are celebrated on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Spouse, friends and caregivers are welcome!

~

RSVP Mary Lou Savage: marylou.savage@dsj.org
or call 650.494-2496 ext. 0