



# Saint Thomas Aquinas Bulletin

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

## A Letter From The Pastor

*Fr. Estanislao Mikalonis*

Dear Parishioners,

As summer draws to a close, students return to school, and vacations wind down, we hope you've enjoyed a blessed and refreshing summer break. A special welcome to our new members joining our parish family—we're thrilled to have you with us! With the new Pastoral Year upon us, we're excited to embark on another meaningful spiritual journey together. We warmly invite you to join us for Sunday Masses and our vibrant parish activities—bring your family and friends!

We are actively seeking candidates for the Faith Formation and Liturgy/Music Director positions. We're prepared to begin the year strong, even if these roles remain open temporarily. A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated volunteers who always step up to meet our community's needs! If you feel called to serve, we welcome you to join our volunteer team. Opportunities abound in areas such as St. Vincent de Paul, Knights of Columbus, Youth Ministries, Faith Formation, office administration, Liturgical Ministries, Homebound Ministry, Pastoral Council, Finance Board, Building and Equipment Maintenance, and Hispanic Ministry. Contact our pastor to get involved—say yes to serving!

We encourage you to enroll your children in Faith Formation, Teens for Confirmation, and Youth Ministry groups. This year, we're offering exciting opportunities for our youth to build community, pray, learn, serve, and have fun. Plans are underway for our 2026 Youth Ministry Mission Trip—imagine exploring Colombia, El Salvador, Mexico, or Puerto Rico! Don't miss out!

Mark your calendars for our Parish Picnic on Sunday, September 28th! We'll celebrate with a special Unity Mass at 10:00 AM, combining our 9:00 AM SAG, 9:00 AM OLR, and 10:30 AM OLR Masses. All other Masses will remain as scheduled. We're considering hosting the picnic at the SAG site this year—stay tuned for details. We'd love to see you there!

Registration is now open for our Annual Youth Retreat at Mount Hermon, November 7th–9th. This transformative experience for our youth grows more impactful each year—don't let your teen miss it!

We're also planning Adult Ongoing Faith Formation, retreats, Christmas activities, and more to enrich our community. With God's grace, we look forward to a beautiful year together. Welcome back from your vacations, and we can't wait to see you in church!

In Christ,

*Estanislao Mikalonis, Pastor*



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## Una Carta Del Párroco

*Fr. Estanislao Mikalonis*

Queridos Feligreses,

A medida que el verano llega a su fin, los estudiantes regresan a la escuela y las vacaciones terminan, esperamos que hayan disfrutado de un descanso estival bendecido y rejuvenecedor. ¡Una cálida bienvenida a nuestros nuevos miembros que se unen a nuestra familia parroquial—estamos emocionados de tenerlos con nosotros!

Con el inicio del nuevo Año Pastoral, estamos entusiasmados por emprender juntos otro viaje espiritual significativo. Los invitamos cordialmente a unirse a nosotros en las Misas dominicales y en las vibrantes actividades parroquiales—¡traigan a sus familias y amigos!

Estamos buscando activamente candidatos para los puestos de Director de Formación en la Fe y Director de Liturgia/Música. Estamos listos para comenzar el año con fuerza, incluso si estos puestos no se cubren de inmediato. ¡Un sincero agradecimiento a nuestros dedicados voluntarios que siempre dan un paso al frente para cubrir las necesidades de nuestra comunidad! Si sientes el llamado a servir, te invitamos a unirse a nuestro equipo de voluntarios. Hay numerosas oportunidades en áreas como San Vicente de Paúl, Caballeros de Colón, Ministerios Juveniles, Formación en la Fe, apoyo administrativo en la oficina, Ministros Litúrgicos, Ministerio de Visitas a Enfermos, Consejo Pastoral, Junta de Finanzas, Junta de Mantenimiento de Edificios y Equipos, y la Junta del Ministerio Hispano. Comunícate con nuestro párroco para participar—¡di sí al servicio!

Los animamos a inscribir a sus hijos en Formación en la Fe, a los adolescentes en Confirmación y a los grupos de Ministerio Juvenil. Este año, ofrecemos emocionantes oportunidades para que nuestros jóvenes construyan comunidad, oren, aprendan, sirvan y se diviertan. Ya estamos planeando nuestro Viaje Misionero de Ministerio Juvenil 2026—¡imagina explorar Colombia, El Salvador, México o Puerto Rico! ¡No te lo pierdas!

Reserva la fecha para nuestro Pícnic Parroquial el domingo 28 de septiembre. Celebraremos con una Misa de Unidad especial a las 10:00 de la mañana, que combinará las Misas de las 9:00 de SAG, 9:00 de OLR y 10:30 de OLR. Todas las demás Misas permanecerán según lo programado. Estamos considerando realizar el pícnic en el sitio de SAG este año—mantente atento para más detalles. ¡Nos encantaría verte allí!

Ya está abierta la inscripción para nuestro Retiro Juvenil Anual en Mount Hermon, del 7 al 9 de noviembre. Esta experiencia transformadora para nuestros jóvenes se vuelve más impactante cada año—¡no dejes que tu adolescente se lo pierda!

También estamos planificando Formación en la Fe Continua para Adultos, retiros, actividades navideñas y más para enriquecer nuestra comunidad. Con la gracia de Dios, esperamos un año maravilloso juntos. ¡Bienvenidos de regreso de sus vacaciones, y nos vemos en la iglesia!

En Cristo,

*Estanislao Mikalonis, Pastor*



## Daily Mass Announcement

Wednesday Weekly Mass during school year, will be held at 8.15am every Wednesday during the School Year (even when school its in break). Please see our Mass schedule for more Mass times.

## Labor Day Mass Announcement

September 1st, Labor Day, there will be only one Mass at 10:00 AM, at St. Albert the Great Church.

## We Are Hiring

### Faith Formation and Director of Liturgy and Music

Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish is hiring a full-time Faith Formation Director and Director of Liturgy and Music to provide pastoral and professional leadership in planning, implementing, and enriching the worship life across its three parish site. **For more information and to see the job postings, visit our website.**

## Women's Silent Retreat

Join us for a Women's Silent Retreat on The Last Discourse of Jesus, directed by Fr. Serge Propst, OP & Fr. Augustine Hilander, OP. The retreat will focus on the Gospel of John and how to live the Divine Life. The cost is \$320 for a single occupancy room, \$300 per person for a double occupancy room, or \$125 for a Saturday day commuter (no lodging). Register on our website or by phone. Registration closes one week before the retreat. Contact for registration and questions: 831-423-8093 or [info@stclaresretreat.org](mailto:info@stclaresretreat.org)

## Registrations for parish programs are now open!

The Faith Formation, Youth Ministries, Young Adults, Youth retreat and other parish ministries are now open for registration. Don't miss the chance to grow in faith and community. Opportunities available for all ages and stages. Registration is on our website.

## Middle School and High School Program Calendars Are Now Available

The Middle school and high school youth ministry calendars for the 2025-2026 school year are now available. Please see our website for the full calendar.



### Please Pray for the Sick and Homebound

#### Sick and Homebound

Lauro Quintanar, Enedelia Sandoval, Raul Badua, Winnie McGannon, Xochiti Quintanar, Joan Campbell, Mick Pellazzari, Mena Fu, Nicki Chun, Mary Martinson, Vicky Sullivan, Shui Wong, Dan Fillin, Bob Reklis

#### Recently Deceased:

John Christopher Kelly, Mark Delamater Flanagan, Michael Toomey, Maria Luisa Marquez, Mabel G Teresi, 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. To add a name contact Mary Fong: [marytanfong@gmail.com](mailto:marytanfong@gmail.com)





## Join Us in the Pastoral Garden This Saturday

Hello Pastoral Garden Volunteers,

Please join us for a cool Summer morning at the Pastoral Garden at Our Lady of the Rosary this Saturday, Aug 23, for some weeding, pruning, tidying up, moving mulch, and other Summer garden tasks, 9 to 11:30am or however much time you can spare.

Some apples may be ready for picking. The figs, pomegranates, and avocados are still growing, not quite ready yet.

I hope you can join us!

## Welcome Back Elizabeth Seton School!

Summer is over, and the students return eager to learn and ready to serve in Christ's love! May this new school year be filled with joy, growth, and blessings for all.



Ready for the first day of school!



So happy to be back with our friends! 😊



So excited for recess with our friends!!!



## 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

### 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

Sunday

7:30 AM

9:00 AM (Thomas Merton Center Community)

11:00 AM (Gregorian Mass)

Saturday

5:00 PM (Vigil)

Sunday

9:00 AM

Sunday

9:00 AM (Español)

10:30 AM (English)

## 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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**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

**Mary Lou Savage**, Office Administrator, ext. 0  
marylou.savage@dsj.org





## “The Parable of the Good Samaritan” (Luke 10:25-37)

Homily of Pope Leo XIV

This beautiful parable constantly challenges us to think about our own lives. It troubles our dormant or distracted conscience, and warns us about the risk of a complacent faith that is satisfied with the outward observance of the Law, but incapable of feeling and acting with the same merciful compassion as God. This parable speaks about compassion that moves the Samaritan to act, after a Priest and a Levite walked by the wounded man lying on the roadside, “the Samaritan saw him and had compassion on him” (v 33).

It counts how we see others, because it shows what is in our hearts. There is a kind of seeing that is superficial, hasty, distracted while pretending not to see. Then, there is a seeing with the eyes of the heart, looking more closely with empathy that is allowing us to be touched and challenged. The good Samaritan is a figure of Jesus who is seeing us with compassion and does not walk by. We too, in our own day, must confront the darkness of evil, suffering, poverty, and the riddle of death. Jesus came to heal our wounds and pour out upon us the balm of His Love and Mercy.

This parable is challenging for each one of us. Christ showed us the face of a compassionate God, then to believe in Him and to be His disciple, means allowing ourselves to be changed and learning to have a heart that is moved, eyes that see without looking away, to have hands that help others, and shoulders that bear the burden of those in need. Once we realize that Christ, the good Samaritan, loves us and cares for us, we too will be moved to love and care for others in the same way, we too become witnesses of His Love and His compassion in our world. Today, we need a “revolution of love” that was expressed on the road to Jericho. Today, roads are traveled by those who descend into sin, are suffering, and experiencing the pain of poverty. Today, roads are travelled by all who hit rock bottom, are robbed by tyrannical systems, and are victims of wars that killed their dreams and their very lives. What do we do? Do we look and walk by or do we open our hearts to others, like the Samaritan? Are we content to merely do our duty and regard only our own group of like-minded people as our neighbor? Jesus shows us the example of the Samaritan and He is asking us to “go and do likewise” (v 37).

*Pontifical Parish of Saint Thomas of Villanova (Castel Gandolfo), Sunday, 13 July 2025  
(Teresa Budzich, M.Div.)*