



Saint Thomas Aquinas Bulletin

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



Music for Food Concert

Support our St. Vincent de Paul Society at our Music for Food Concert on Sunday, September 21st, at 4:00 PM at St. Thomas Aquinas Church. Enjoy a captivating program featuring Debussy, Berlioz, Bernstein, Beach, Verdi, and more, with piano, cello, violin, voice, and flute. Invite friends and family to fill the pews for this uplifting fundraiser! Admission is free, and all donations will benefit our Saint Vincent de Paul Society.



Join Us for Our Annual Parish Picnic — A Day of Faith, Food, and Fun!

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, September 28th**, as we come together for our vibrant Annual Parish Picnic! This special day kicks off our Pastoral Year, bringing our community closer through shared prayer, delicious food, and joyful activities for all ages.

To celebrate as one family, we'll combine the 9:00 AM OLR, 9:00 AM SAG, and 10:30 AM OLR Masses into a single, uplifting 10:00 AM Unity Mass at the OLR site. (All other Masses will remain as scheduled.) After Mass, the festivities begin, offering an opportunity to connect with friends across our three parish sites.

To make this communal feast even more special, we invite everyone to contribute based on your last name: Last Names A-Q: Please bring an appetizer or side dish. Last Names R-Z: Please bring a dessert.

Share the bounty from your garden surplus! Bring your extra fruits, vegetables, or herbs to exchange with fellow parishioners, spreading the joy of homegrown goodness.

Grateful for a Spirit-Filled Kickoff!

Youth Ministry Kickoff 2025-2026

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who made our Youth Ministry Kickoff such a joyful success! From those who helped prepare and serve to all who came to join in fellowship, your presence and support made the evening truly special and so much fun. May God continue to bless our youth and all who walk alongside them in faith.



Discover the San José Diocese Pastoral Plan

Renewed in Christ, Together in Mission

The Diocese of San José has shared a pastoral plan to guide our community in faith, service, and mission. As we look ahead to the 50th Jubilee of the Diocese of San José in 2031—joyfully coinciding with the 500th anniversary of Our Lady of Guadalupe's appearance—we embrace a future filled with faith, unity, and renewal. The Pastoral Plan is not simply a document, but a living roadmap for meaningful action in our community. We invite you to take a look and see how we can walk together in Christ. Visit the DSJ website to explore the plan and learn how you can be part of this journey.



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 available on our website.

Please Pray for the Sick and Homebound

Sick and Homebound:

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



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.

ParishSoft Online Giving Update

Effective September 18, all DSJ parishes will upgrade to an enhanced version of ParishSOFT, the administration software we use. There will be a refreshed interface and strengthened security measures for greater efficiency. Online Giving users are strongly encouraged to record their User ID and password as credentials stored in a browser may not populate after the update. If you generally rely on your computer to remember your User ID and passwords, the new Online Giving page may not remember them, and you may have to set up new ones!



Diaper Drive

The DSJ Diocesan Layette Program is in **URGENT** need of diapers - **newborn and size one only**. Please drop them off on Parish Picnic day, Sunday Sept. 28. There will be a designated table under the tree as you enter the picnic area. Your generosity in helping new mothers in need is appreciated.

Contact Mary Lou Savage marylou.savage@dsj.org if you have questions about the program.

Sowing Seeds of Faith

*The Diocese of San José
Campaign for Spiritual
Renewal*

The Sowing Seeds of Faith Campaign for Spiritual Renewal is a bold step forward in our diocesan journey of renewal.

Rooted in prayer, consultation, and our shared mission, this campaign will strengthen our parishes, schools, ministries, and future generations of Catholics in Santa Clara County. Together, we are planting seeds that will bear fruit for years to come.

Each of our four pilot parishes have begun to host special launch events, gathering some of their most engaged leaders to begin this journey of renewal and stewardship.

For more information on how you can get involved, contact the Mission Advancement & Stewardship Office at (408) 983-0120



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 visit and enjoy the library once it's complete. Volunteer dates are October 20-23. If you are interested, please call the school office: 650-326-9004.

PRAY. LEARN. CONNECT.



Join The Young Adults

All young adults are invited to join us every Thursday evening at the SAG site for a time of prayer, reflection, and community. We begin with Adoration at 6:45pm, followed by Bible Study at 7:30pm, and end the evening with fellowship and social time at the Parish Rectory at 8:30pm. Come grow in faith, build friendships, and share in the joy of walking with Christ together.

Bridges to Contemplative Living with Thomas Merton

Becoming Who You Already Are

Building on the Merton Center's Lent/Holy Week Bridges program, we will continue to explore the spirituality and writings of Thomas Merton and other authors.

Facilitated by Fr. John Auther, SJ, retreat director at the Jesuit Retreat Center of Los Altos, this eight-week series invites participants into a deeper journey of contemplative living and prayer.

Sessions will be held via Zoom on Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m., September 10–October 1, 2025, and January 14–February 4, 2026. Registration is required at thomasmerton.org/bridges, where the Zoom link will be available.

Women's Silent Retreat

Join us for St. Clare's Women's Silent Retreat September 19-21 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

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)



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

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



“The Parable of the Good Samaritan” (Lk 10:29-37)

Catechesis of the Holy Father Leo XIV


The setting of this parable is a difficult and impervious road, just like life itself. It is a road travelled by a man going down from Jerusalem, the city on the mountain, to Jericho, the city below sea level. The man is attacked, beaten, robbed, and left half dead. This experience happens when situations, people, sometimes even those we have trusted, take everything from us and leave us in the middle of the road.

Our life is made up of encounters, and through those encounters we emerge for who we really are. We find ourselves in front of others, faced with their fragility, weaknesses, and it is up to us to decide what to do: to take care of them or to pretend nothing is wrong. A Priest and a Levite travel the same road. Both serve in the Temple and yet, their practice of worship does not lead to being compassionate. Compassion is not a religious matter but a question of humanity. We are called to be human before being believers.

We can imagine that, after staying a long time in Jerusalem, the Priest and the Levite are in a hurry to return to their homes. It is indeed the haste, so present in our lives, that often prevents us from acts of compassion. Those who think that their own journey must take precedence are not willing to stop for another. But the Samaritan, a person belonging to the despised people, simply stops when seeing another man in need of help.

Compassion is expressed through practical gestures and direct contact. The Samaritan binds the wounds of the injured man, loads him onto his horse, takes him to the Inn, and pays for his care. When we, too, will be capable of interrupting our own journey for a gesture of compassion? Only when we understand that the wounded man in the street represents each one of us, and only when we remember the times that Jesus stopped to care for us. Let us pray that we can grow in humanity, so that our relationships may be truer and richer in compassion. Jesus is our model of true humanity and compassion.

St. Peter's Square, Wednesday, 28 May 2025
(Teresa Budzich, M.Div.)



SAINT THOMAS
AQUINAS
PARISH

DREAMS

SEPTEMBER 21
DOORS OPEN 3:45PM
FREE ADMISSION

Classical Chamber Concert

In collaboration with the Music for Food project,
100% of free will donations will go to the St. Vincent de Paul Society
to provide support to those facing food insecurity in the Bay Area

751 Waverley St, Palo Alto, CA 94301 | merjanianmusic.com/dreams



PARISH PICNIC 2025

WHEN

Sunday, September 28
Outdoor 10am Unity Mass

WHERE

Our Lady of the Rosary

BBQ PICNIC TO FOLLOW

All are welcome to enjoy food, games and entertainment!

Potluck: Last names
A-Q Appetizers/Side Dish
R-Z Dessert

**VOLUNTEER
SIGN UP
HERE**



**Bring your surplus
garden fruit or veg
to share with the
community! 🍎**

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

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

1095 Channing Ave

650-326-9004

www.setonpal Alto.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 you’re spiritually seasoned 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





Iglesia Nuestra Sra. del Rosario



**Programa de
Catequesis para niños,
jovenes y adultos.
2025 - 2026**



**Nuestro Programa de Catequesis
ofrece:**

- Programa regular de Domingo
 - Pre-Kinder a 7 Grado
- Programa de Sacramentos:
 - Primera Comunión
 - Pre-Confirmación (1 año)
 - Confirmación (2° año)
 - RICA (Sacramento de adultos)
- Clase de biblia para Adultos

Registraciones:

- En persona.
 - Habran registraciones en persona los Domingos Agosto 17 y 24, a las 10:15 (despues de la misa)
- En linea.
 - Las registraciones estan abiertas en linea en este enlace: <https://paloaltocatholic.net/>



Retiro de Jovenes



Catecismo

**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 bebés 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

St. Thomas Aquinas

Youth Retreat Nov 7-9 2025 @Mt. Hermon



Register today!



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



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**