September 4, 2025

Saint Thomas Aquinas Bulletin

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

Faith Formation Pancake Breakfast – Meet Our New Director, Tyler Ngo!

September 7, 2025

Dear Parishioners,

We are excited to kick off the new Faith Formation Year and warmly invite you to meet and welcome our new Faith Formation Director, Tyler Ngo, at a delightful Pancake Breakfast! Join us after the 9:00 AM and 10:30 AM Masses on Sunday, September 7, at the OLR site. Tyler is thrilled to take on this role and eager to connect with our vibrant community. He especially looks forward to greeting parents of children registered in this year's Faith Formation program and sharing his vision for nurturing faith and fellowship. Come enjoy a morning of delicious pancakes, warm conversation, and community spirit. We can't wait to see you there!

Warm regards,
The Faith Formation Team

Desayuno de Panqueques – ¡Conoce a Nuestro Nuevo Director de Catecismo, Tyler Ngo!

September 7, 2025

Queridos feligreses,

Estamos emocionados de iniciar el nuevo Año de Formación en la Fe y los invitamos cordialmente a conocer a nuestro nuevo Director de Catecismo, Tyler Ngo, en un delicioso Desayuno de Panqueques. Únanse a nosotros después de las Misas de 9:00 a.m. y 10:30 a.m. el domingo 7 de septiembre en el sitio de OLR. Tyler está entusiasmado de asumir este rol y ansía conocer a cada miembro de nuestra vibrante comunidad. Está especialmente deseoso de saludar a los padres de los niños inscritos en el programa de Catecismo de este año y compartir su visión para nutrir la fe y la comunión.
Vengan a disfrutar de una mañana llena de panqueques deliciosos, conversaciones cálidas y espíritu comunitario. ¡Esperamos verlos allí!

Con cariño,
El Equipo de Formación en la Fe

Paul Chesnut Receiving The Award on Behalf of STA Parish

STA Parish Recognition

The Diocese of San Jose is committed to eco-justice and defending human life by addressing poverty and global challenges. Efforts include feeding the hungry, supporting Right to Life and restorative justice, building homes in Tijuana, aiding the homeless with showers and supplies, and addressing food insecurity for 250,000 people through parish food pantries and meal services. Two parishes, St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Victor's, are recognized for their Right to Life advocacy. St. Thomas Aquinas actively supports pro-life causes and opposes the death penalty through events like Walk for Life, 40 Days for Life vigils, connections with Real Options, anti-death penalty rallies, and community discussions, including one with District Attorney Rosen.

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 a wonderful opportunity to connect with friends old and new across our three parish sites.

Join us to:

- Strengthen our community through shared worship and fellowship.
- Enjoy delicious food and exciting activities for kids, families, and adults.
- Kick off the Pastoral Year with enthusiasm and new opportunities to grow in faith.

Don't miss this chance to celebrate our parish family and start the year with joy! Bring your energy, your smiles, and your appetite – we can't wait to see you there!

Multifaith Peace Picnic and Prayer

To Honor the Victims of 9/11

Thursday, September 11, 2025, 5:30 pm at King Plaza in Downtown Palo Alto. Complementary dinners provided. Please register soon so we can plan our catering. This event is **free** and **open to all**.

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, Vicky Sullivan, Shui Wong, Dan Fillin, Bob Reklis

Recently Deceased:

Brian Dooney, Kathy Finnerty, 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

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.

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

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.

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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Miguelangel Cardenas, Youth Minister
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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 Spirit of The Lord is Upon Me" (Luke 4:18)

Homily of the Holy Father Leo XIV

When we ask the Spirit to enlighten our minds, to multiply our languages, to awaken our senses, to install love, to strengthen our bodies, and to grant us peace, we become open to God's Kingdom. This, according to the Gospel, is the meaning of conversion. It is "turning toward" the Kingdom already close at hand. In Jesus we see, and from Jesus we hear, how everything changes because God is King, God is close to us. At the time of Pentecost, we are deeply aware of this closeness of God and of His Spirit who joins our lives to that of Jesus. The Spirit of Jesus changes the world because he changes hearts. The Spirit inspires the contemplative dimension of life that rejects self-assertion, complaining, rivalry, and the temptation to control consciences and resources.

At Pentecost, Mary, the Apostles, and the disciples with them received a Spirit of unity, which forever grounded all their diversity in the one Lord Jesus Christ. Theirs were not multiple missions, but a single mission. They were no longer introverted and quarrelling with one another, but outgoing and radiant with joy. "He has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord" (Lk 4:18-19). Here, we sense the fragrance of charism with which our foreheads have been anointed. Baptism and Confirmation united us to Jesus' mission of making all things new, to the Kingdom of God.

God is not solitary. God, as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is a "with" in Himself, and God with us on the road ahead, for where the Spirit is, there is movement, a journey to be made. We are people on the move. This does not set us apart but unites us to humanity like the yeast in a mass of dough, which causes it to rise. The year of the Lord's grace, reflected in the current Jubilee, has this fermentation within it. In a divided and troubled world, the Holy Spirit teaches us to walk together in unity. The earth will rest, justice will prevail, the poor will rejoice, and peace will return, once we no longer act as predators but as pilgrims. No longer each of us for ourselves, but walking alongside one another.

May your meetings and your communities be training grounds of fraternity and sharing, not merely meeting places, but the centers of spirituality. May Mary, Queen of the Apostles and Mother of the Church, intercede for us.

St. Peter's Square, Saturday, 7 June 2025
(Teresa Budzich, M.Div.)

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

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

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 Comunion
  - Pre-Confirmacion (1 año)
  - Confirmacion (2° año)
  - RICA (Sacramento de adultos)
- Clase de bilbia 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

Please join

St. Thomas Aquinas Youth

Kick Off BBQ

CELEBRATE THE START OF OUR 2025-2026 YOUTH MINISTRY YEAR!

WHETHER YOU'RE NEW OR RETURNING, THIS IS THE NIGHT TO COME MEET THE YOUTH GROUP VOLUNTEERS, GRAB SOME DELICIOUS BBQ, PLAY SOME GAMES, AND FIND OUT ABOUT ALL THE AWESOME EVENTS COMING UP FOR BOTH MIDDLE SCHOOLERS AND HIGH SCHOOLERS.

12 SEPTEMBER 2025

Starting at 6 PM - 9 PM

Where? St. Albert the Great 1095 Channing Ave, Palo Alto, CA 94301

Questions, Comments, or Concerns?

Contact: Miguelangel.cardenas@dsj.org

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

St. Thomas Aquinas

Youth Retreat Nov 7-9 2025 @Mt. Herman

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