

WELCOME TO THE FAITH COMMUNITY OF
ST. THOMAS MORE



We hope that you feel welcome and will participate in the many activities here, whether you are a regular parishioner, a seasonal resident, or just visiting.

**ROMAN CATHOLIC
STUDENT CENTER & UNIVERSITY PARISH**

100 East Stinson Street, Norman OK 73072

(South of OU Stadium on the corner of Jenkins Avenue & Stinson Street)

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

VIGIL MASS	SATURDAY, 5:00 P.M.
SUNDAY MASSES	8:30 A.M., 11:00 A.M. & 5:00 P.M.
COMMUNION SERVICE	MONDAY, 7:30 A.M.
DAILY MASSES	TUESDAY & THURSDAY, 5:15 P.M. WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY, 7:30 A.M.
LATE NIGHT LITURGY	WEDNESDAY, 9:00 P.M. (DURING OU FALL & SPRING SEMESTERS)
ROSARY	FOLLOWING DAILY MASS

OFFICE INFORMATION

OFFICE HOURS (Monday-Friday)	8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
LUNCH TIME	12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
OFFICE CLOSED	HOLY DAYS
PHONE	(405) 321-0990
FAX	(405) 321-0964
WEB SITE	http://www.stm-ou.org
PRAYER LINE	(405) 447-7055
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHARITIES	(405) 329-5372
BULLETIN DEADLINE	TUESDAY, 12:00 Noon

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES. Classes are available for pre-school through high school youth. Please contact parish office to register your child.

MASS REQUESTS. To schedule a Mass intention, contact the Parish Secretary.

NEWCOMERS. Welcome to St. Thomas More! Please complete a registration form located on the table opposite the Parish office in the Atrium.

MOVING. Please contact the Parish office with your new address.

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor: Reverend Ray K. Ackerman
oklarka@yahoo.com Ext. 204

Deacon & R.C.I.A. Director: Dr. John D. Pigott
jpigott@ou.edu Ext. 250

Deacon: Tom Schott
tom.schott@gmail.com Ext. 300

Religious Education & Youth Ministry Coordinator: Cindy O'Brien
cindy@stm-ou.org Ext. 202

Campus Minister: K. Erin Cleto
ecleto@stm-ou.org Ext. 205

Development Director: Debbie Kohls
dkohls@stm-ou.org Ext. 206

Music Director: Jon Roberts
jroberts@stm-ou.org Ext. 203

Secretary & Bulletin Editor: Gloria Olivero
glory@stm-ou.org Ext. 200

Website Editor: Richard Love
pchelp@normanmusicscene.com

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 20, 2008

The Lord Jesus has "called us out of darkness into his wonderful light." We hear him do that very concretely in the Gospel today. He reassures us with these words: "Do not let your hearts be troubled... Have faith in God and faith in me... Where I am you will be... I am the way, the truth, and the life... Whoever believes in me will do the works I do." This is the word of God that "continued to spread" so that the number of disciples "increased greatly." This increase is what the risen Christ continues to offer the Church through the ministry of priests and deacons. "Come to him; let yourselves be built into a spiritual house."

© Magnificat / Monthly Vol. 10 No. 2 / April 2008

SCRIPTURE VERSE. "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am, you also may be." - **JN 14:1-3**

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of St. Thomas More University Parish is to serve the spiritual, educational, and social needs of the Parish and to evangelize the larger community as expressed by our Catholic tradition.

VISION STATEMENT

The desire of our hearts is to be a vibrant sacramental Catholic community that prays, learns, cares, and shares in ways that compel us to witness to the power of the presence of God and to build God's kingdom.

SACRAMENTAL MINISTRIES

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION). Saturdays, 3:00-4:30 p.m., or by personal appointment.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM. Parents requesting infant baptism must be *active* registered members of the parish for at least six months and must contact the parish office to schedule an appointment. The next seminar will be **Wednesday, April 30, at 7:00 p.m.** in the Parish library.

DEFINITION OF ACTIVE PARISHIONER. Must be registered, contribute 5% of Annual Gross Income using envelopes, volunteer time and talent, and attend Mass every weekend. Mass attendance verified by presence of envelope - even if empty - in collection.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK. Parishioners facing surgery or struggling with serious illness may request this sacrament by calling the Parish office. Contact our Parish Nurse, Kathy Heiple, at (405) 321-7863, to arrange for visits and/or reception of Holy Communion.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY. Couples must be *active* members registered in the parish for at least six months, and need to contact Reverend Ray Ackerman six months prior to the proposed wedding date. All engaged couples are urged to contact the Office of Family Life at (405) 721-8944 to register for the required Marriage Preparation Course (*Pre-Cana or Engagement Encounter*).

The **RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (R.C.I.A.)** is the formation process for educating and initiating adults who either would like to become Catholic, or desire to learn more about what the Catholic Church teaches. For information, contact Deacon John D. Pigott at jpigott@ou.edu.

VOCATIONS TO HOLY ORDERS AND CONSECRATED LIFE. Those who feel called to this life are invited to contact the Archdiocesan Office of Vocations at (405) 721-9351; or Reverend Ray K. Ackerman at the parish office.

MASS INTENTIONS & SCHEDULE

SUNDAY † APRIL 20 † FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

THIRD SUNDAY: WEEKLY COLLECTION

PASSOVER, FIRST DAY

- 8:30 a.m. MASS Intentions of THE PARISH FAMILY (Sanctuary)
Dismissal for Children's Liturgy [3-5 year olds]
- 9:45 a.m. Religious Education Classes [Grades K-8th]
- 11:00 a.m. MASS † REVEREND ERNEST A. FLUSCHE
[Rev. Ray K. Ackerman] (Sanctuary)
Dismissal for Children's Liturgy [3-5 year olds]
- 3:30 p.m. Religious Education Classes [Grades 9th- 12th]
- 5:00 p.m. MASS † VERA CHARLES MANION [Candida Manion]
(Sanctuary)
- 6:00 p.m. College Sunday Supper (White House: 1511 Jenkins Avenue)
- 6:30 p.m. Stephen's Ministry (Library)

MONDAY † APRIL 21 † EASTER WEEKDAY

Anselm, bishop, doctor of the Church

- 7:30 a.m. COMMUNION SERVICE (Sanctuary)
- 6:00 p.m. Men of Honor (Library)
- 6:30 p.m. Just Faith (Lounge)
- 9:00 p.m. Women of Grace (TBA)

TUESDAY † APRIL 22 † EASTER WEEKDAY - EARTH DAY

- 5:15 p.m. MASS SPECIAL INTENTIONS [Anonymous] (Sanctuary)
- 7:00 p.m. Right To Life Lecture (Frontier Room of OU Union)
- 8:30 p.m. College Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

WEDNESDAY † APRIL 23 † EASTER WEEKDAY

ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS DAY

George, martyr; Adalbert, bishop, martyr

- 7:30 a.m. MASS SPECIAL INTENTIONS [Anonymous] (Sanctuary)
- 6:00 p.m. College Night: "Yard Sale Sorting & Pricing" (Overflow)
- 8:30 p.m. College Rosary (Blessed Sacrament Chapel)
- 9:00 p.m. MASS (Sanctuary)

THURSDAY † APRIL 24 † EASTER WEEKDAY

Fidelis of Sigmaringen, priest & martyr

- 1:30 p.m. Martha & Mary Quilting Group (Overflow)
- 5:15 p.m. MASS SPECIAL INTENTIONS [Anonymous] (Sanctuary)
- 6:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul (Library)
- 7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 7:30 p.m. Communion & Liberation (Lounge)
- 8:30 p.m. VESPERS (Blessed Sacrament Chapel)

FRIDAY † APRIL 25 † MARK, EVANGELIST - ARBOR DAY

- 7:30 a.m. MASS † RICHARD HARRISON [Louise Harrison] (Sanctuary)

SATURDAY † APRIL 26 † EASTER WEEKDAY

- 7:00 a.m. Campus Ministry *Yard Sale* (STM)
- 3:00 p.m. CONFESSIONS (Reconciliation Room)
- 5:00 p.m. MASS † BIRL MARTI [Valli Powell-Marti] (Sanctuary)

SUNDAY † APRIL 27 † SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

FOURTH SUNDAY: WEEKLY COLLECTION

CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS: ARCHDIOCESAN COLLECTION

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION / ORTHODOX EASTER

- 8:30 a.m. MASS Intentions of THE PARISH FAMILY (Sanctuary)
Dismissal for Children's Liturgy [3-5 year olds]
- 9:45 a.m. Religious Education Classes [Grades K-8th]
- 11:00 a.m. MASS † RICHARD HARRISON [LOUISE HARRISON]
(Sanctuary)
Dismissal for Children's Liturgy [3-5 year olds]
- 3:30 p.m. Religious Education Classes [Grades 9th- 12th]
- 5:00 p.m. MASS † REVEREND ERNEST A. FLUSCHE
[Rev. Ray K. Ackerman] (Sanctuary)
- 6:00 p.m. End-of-Year Cookout (White House: 1511 Jenkins Avenue)

**My spirit finds joy
in God my savior
Luke 1:47**

HOSPITALITY SCHEDULE



	APRIL 27	MAY 4
8:30 a.m.	The Newell Family	The Hinton Family
11:00 a.m.	The Goldsberry Family	The Johnson Family, E. Kernal

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

APRIL 26 & 27, 2008

ALTAR SERVERS

SATURDAY MASS

- 5:00 p.m. Hannah G., Matthew M., Michael M.

SUNDAY MASSES

- 8:30 a.m. Brandon M., Lauren S., Valerie P.
- 11:00 a.m. Mikael B., Cynthia O., Maya H.
- 5:00 p.m. Hannah R., Janice Wilson, Joseph Mecham

LECTORS

SATURDAY MASS

- 5:00 p.m. Sharon Peelor, Tom Burns

SUNDAY MASSES

- 8:30 a.m. Earl Whitman, Mick Hinton
- 11:00 a.m. Charles & Maria Kenney
- 5:00 p.m. R.C. Davis-Undiano, Heather Stout

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

SATURDAY MASS

- 5:00 p.m. Valli Marti, Paula Graham, Mary & Stephen Bonner

SUNDAY MASSES

- 8:30 a.m. Eleanor Barnes, Patricia & Charles Gill,
Stacy Schrank, Joe Lies
- 11:00 a.m. Eric Anderson, Rigo Gutierrez, Dan Lawrence,
Margaret Vennochi, Deanna Preble, Veronica Edge,
Steve Edge, Rick Pendergraft, Gail Anderson
- 5:00 p.m. Sims Beeler, Jennifer Grover, Ben Ballard,
Michael DuPont, Phillip Smith, David Banowsky,
Bobby Meiners, Susan Mecham, Arn Henderson

USHERS

SATURDAY MASS

- 5:00 p.m. *Volunteers Needed*

SUNDAY MASSES

- 8:30 a.m. Becky Fleming, K. Denton, Jr., Russell Koch
- 11:00 a.m. Jim Weller, Junsik Sim, Tim Marquis, Chris Dalton
- 5:00 p.m. Jonothon Updike, Bill Huntington, Cody Moore

SAVE YOUR ITEMS FOR THE PARISH YARD SALE

The Annual Parish Yard Sale will be held on **Saturday, April 26, from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** We need customers and donations of good CLEAN salable items. **Please bring your donations to the Overflow room this week, April 21-25, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.** This is the sixteenth year for this sale. We typically net about \$3,000, so it is a vital fundraiser for the Campus Ministry Program. **Your support is needed and will be greatly appreciated. Thank you!**

Although **October 24th** seems eons away, it is already time to start planning the **2008 "DANCING WITH THE STARS" GALA.** *We need volunteers to help plan this fun and elegant evening that will raise funds for the Saint Thomas More Campus Ministry Programs.* Please call Debbie Kohls, Development Director, at 405.321.0990, Ext. 206.



PARISH FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

COLLECTION: APRIL 12 & 13, 2008

Weekly Amount	\$10,164.13	YTD Amount	\$ 406,852.15
Weekly Budget	<u>\$10,300.00</u>	YTD Budget	<u>\$ 423,000.00</u>
DEFICIT	<\$ 135.87>	DEFICIT	<\$ 16,147.85>

Thank you for your continued support!

CAMPUS MINISTRY

K. Erin Cleto, Campus Minister • 405.321.0990 Ext. 205
ecleto@stm-ou.org

There will be a *free meal* in the White House after the 5 PM SUNDAY MASS.

Monday, April 21

6 PM: MEN OF HONOR (Parish library)
9 PM: WOMEN OF GRACE (TBA)

Wednesday, April 23

9 PM: COLLEGE NIGHT: Help us with Yard Sale sorting! All of the proceeds from the Yard Sale benefit Campus Ministry, so we need your help! Sorting will be from 6-8 PM in the Overflow Room.
9 PM: MASS

Thursday, April 24

8:30 PM: VESPER (Blessed Sacrament Chapel)

Saturday, April 26

7:00 AM - 3 PM: YARD SALE!

Calling All OU Faculty and Administrators! The St. Thomas More Student Center and University Parish cordially invites you to an **APPRECIATION DINNER** to celebrate your dedication to education and the formation of our young men and women who are the future of our community. The dinner will be held on **Friday, May 2** at the OU Memorial Union at 6 PM. Please **RSVP** to Erin by phone or email by **Wednesday, April 23**.

OU RIGHT TO LIFE STUDENT ASSOCIATION. Come encourage pro-life activism at OU! The OU Right to Life Student Association will be hosting a speaker on campus on **Tuesday, April 22, 2008**. Tony Lauinger, State Chairman of Oklahomans for Life, will be speaking about what it means to be pro-life, the pro-life movement, and pro-life activism. Please join us on **Tuesday, April 22, at 7 p.m.** in the Frontier Room at the Oklahoma Memorial Union (2nd Floor). For further information, please contact peer minister, Annalou Porter, at akporter@ou.edu or 405.520.5749.

ATTENTION YOUNG ADULTS (AGES 21-39)!

You're invited to

THEOLOGY ON TAP

4TH Thursdays, 8:00 p.m., Belle Isle Brewery

April 24: Katie Gordy: *"The Meaning of Eucharist in My Life"*

For information, please e-mail Rachel Swenson at rachel@minister.com or call at 405.384.3807.

ATTENTION PRAYERFUL SINGLE WOMEN! The Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Wichita, Kansas are hosting an exciting Live-in Vocational retreat on **May 16-18, 2008**. Pray and work with the community and hear the informative vocational talks. These retreats are very popular so make your reservations soon. There is no cost, but space is limited. If you take a bus or plane to Wichita, the Sisters will pick you up. Call 1.800.221.1807 for more dates and information.

A.L. COSGROVE STUDENT SERVICE AWARD

Each year St. Thomas More seeks to honor students with a record of noteworthy services to the Parish or to the University of Oklahoma. For the year 2008, the nineteenth year of the recognition, there will be one or more awards given, each including a cash gift.

Requirements to be considered are: (1) active membership in St. Thomas More; (2) a minimum of 30 semester hours completed at the University of Oklahoma, counting those which will be accomplished in the current semester; (3) a G.P.A. of 3.0 or better; and, (4) a record of service to the Parish, or University, or both. St. Thomas More Peer Ministers are not eligible. Applications may be found in the Parish campus ministry office. **Completed applications are due May 9, 2008:**

St. Thomas More University Parish

Attention: A.L. COSGROVE STUDENT SERVICE AWARD

100 East Stinson Street
Norman, OK 73072

Q What was Matthew's purpose in structuring the narrative of his Gospel around five major discourses of Jesus?

& Matthew's community is primarily composed of Jews who have come to accept Jesus as the Messiah. They seem to be in conflict with other Jews who do not accept Jesus as Messiah, and who are beginning to ostracize them for such belief. This religious conflict is affecting Matthew's community identity as Jews, raising questions as to the legitimacy of their Jesus claims, as well as their fidelity to Jewish teachings and practice.

Matthew addresses these community concerns by structuring his Gospel in a way that brings reassurance to his community's belief in Jesus and their fidelity to Jewish Scriptures and traditions. Jesus is introduced as a true Jew of significant Jewish ancestry who is faithful to the law while broadening and deepening its understanding and application. Matthew contrasts Jesus to Moses, the premier Jewish teacher and lawgiver.

Just as Moses goes up the mountain to receive the law and teachings from God, so Jesus goes up a mountain (chapter 5) handing on to his followers the teaching he received directly from God. Just as Moses' teachings were ultimately collected into five books known as the Torah, so Matthew structures Jesus' teachings into five major discourses (chapters 5-7, 10, 13, 18, 23-25), paralleling the Torah. For Matthew's Jewish community, this structure would proclaim Jesus as the new Moses, who can be trusted because his teaching and authority come from God. *Why have you placed your faith and trust in Jesus?* ©2008 Liturgical Publications Inc, New Berlin, WI 53151

CATHOLIC CHARITIES NEWS

CATHOLIC CHARITIES HOSTS OPEN HOUSE ON APRIL 24.

Catholic Charities will host an Open House on **Thursday, April 24, from 4-6 p.m.** at Catholic Charities, 1501 North Classen Boulevard, in Oklahoma City. The public is invited. Staff from all departments will be present to answer questions and provide agency tours. A volunteer recognition will be held at approximately 5:15 p.m. All are welcome. Refreshments will be served. For further information or to RSVP, please contact Debi Wagner, Catholic Charities' Volunteer Office, at 405.523.3009.

FAITH IN ACTION – A NATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM.

Faith In Action – a Parish Social Ministry regional training program, will feature speakers from across the United States who will share their knowledge to develop, support, and expand parish social ministries. The training workshop, which is open to the public, will be held **May 2-4** at the Catholic Pastoral Center in Oklahoma City. To register, contact Becky Van Pool, Parish Outreach and Program Development of Catholic Charities, at 405.523.3009 or popd@catholiccharitiesok.org. The workshop brochure can be accessed at www.catholiccharitiesok.org.

CELEBRATING NURSES.

The first week of May has traditionally been marked as a time to honor the nurses in our community. On **Tuesday, May 13**, Mercy Health Center and Catholic Charities will sponsor an evening of appreciation for our many nurses. Mass will be celebrated beginning at 5:30 pm in the chapel at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 NW Expressway. Reservations are required by calling Donna Bullock, Catholic Charities Parish Outreach, at 405.523.3009. Seating is limited. Deadline for registrations is **Wednesday, May 7**.

ADOPTION SEMINAR SET FOR MAY 17.

Catholic Charities extends an invitation to anyone interested in learning more about adoption to register for a *free* seminar sponsored by Oklahoma Adoption Coalition and Hope Ministries. The seminar is set for **Saturday, May 17, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.** at Crosspointe Church (2601 24th Avenue, SE) in Norman. Sessions on foster care, domestic adoption, international adoption, legal issues, and other topics will be offered. To register, go to www.oklahomaadoptioncoalition.org. Catholic Charities can also be contacted about adoption at 405.523.3012.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & YOUTH MINISTRY

Cindy O'Brien, Coordinator • 405.321.0990 Ext. 202

cindy@stm-ou.org

CLASS SCHEDULE FOR APRIL & MAY

- April 20:** R.E. Classes, 9:45-10:45 (Grades K-8th);
3:30-4:30 (Grades 9th-12th)
- April 27:** R.E. Classes, 9:45-10:45 (Grades K-8th);
3:30-4:30 (Grades 9th-12th)
- May 4:** Last R.E. Classes, 9:45-10:45
(Grades K-8th); 3:30-4:30 (Grades 9th-12th)

Deacon Larry Rossow will facilitate our next **BAPTISMAL SEMINAR** at 7:00 p.m., **Wednesday, April 30**, in the Parish library. This will be our *last* seminar until July, so if you are expecting a child, or would like to have your child baptized *before* August, **YOU MUST ATTEND**. Contact Cindy O'Brien (405.321.0990, Ext. 202) to sign up, receive forms, and booklet.

The Archdiocese of OKC requires anyone in the Parish who has regular contact with youth (*under the age of 18*) to undergo the Safe Environment program before being allowed to help with our young people. **SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING SEMINARS** are held at Saint Thomas More in the parish library on the **3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.** The next one will be held **Tuesday, May 20**. (*If you are unable to attend the Saint Thomas More Safe Environment Seminar, you may attend the seminar at St. Mark's in Norman on the 1st Sunday of each month at 10:15 a.m.*) The seminar lasts approximately 45 minutes. To sign up for this workshop, please contact Kim Pickens at 405.620.3229; or, Cindy O'Brien at 405.321.0990 Ext. 202.

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE SUMMER CAMP is a week of fun that nurtures positive Catholic values in young people in a safe environment. The camp is for any youth who has completed grades 3 through 12. Activities include crafts, hiking, swimming, fishing, volleyball, canoeing, archery, and more. For information, please contact the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City Catholic Youth & Young Adult Office at **405.721.9220**, or check out the website at www.catharchdioceseokc.org and click on "Summer Camp 2008."

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

The All Saints 4-H Clubs are again working in conjunction with the Sooner Lions Club to **collect used eyeglasses for the needy**. Collection boxes are in the school atrium. The past two drives have collected over 850 pairs to give the gift of sight to the needy.

We've topped \$710,000 for our capital campaign! Please keep our campaign in your prayers as our campaign team members approach foundations and corporations. Help us reach our goal of \$1.5 million by making your pledge today.

On-line giving is up and going! Make your capital campaign pledge by credit or debit card by logging on to our school website at www.allsaintsnorman.org and click on the "donate" tab in the upper right corner. Payments can be made over 1, 12 or 24 months. It's easy!

Pre-enrollment for the 2008-09 school year has begun! An admission packet can be downloaded from our school website at www.allsaintsnorman.org (click on *administration*). A record enrollment is expected and only a limited number of positions are available. Apply today! Screenings will be scheduled in the coming weeks.



The **Knights of Columbus Council 8523** are accepting **SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS** from high school seniors and college students. Applications are available in the atrium, or contact Kelly McElhaney (405.360.1768) or Paul Buckelew (405.329.7338). For consideration, application must be received by **APRIL 30**.



**MAY GOD RICHLY BLESS OUR
FIRST HOLY COMMUNICANTS!**

Taylor Bell

Michael Birney

Taylor Birney

Morgan Breedlove

Brody Corbett

Addison Isabella Flores

Autumn Franklin

Andrew Ghigliotti

Ian Hill

Liam Hunt

Julian Irwin

Solomon Jones

Desiree Lane

Chasity Parish

Carson Stewart

Ryan Tobin

Genie Welbourne

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FIRST COMMUNION PRAYER

Dear Jesus,
through bread and wine at the Last Supper,
and by your holy word,
you gave the Eucharist to your church.
You transformed common food and drink into your Body
and Blood,
and offered us a share in your life
in ways we still cannot fully understand.
Grant now that these young people
will always treasure the gift they have in you.
Give them the grace to be faithful to you
and to remain in communion with your church.
As they receive their first Communion,
the Bread of Life and Cup of Salvation,
make them always aware of the hope they have
for eternal life in you.
Amen.

NEWS, NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS


The **MARTHA & MARY QUILTERS** will be meeting in the Overflow room at **1:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 24**. Please bring your current project for SHOW AND SHARE. Bring your suggestions for May's project. For information, call Ann at 405.408.4082.

Next Sunday, our parish will be taking up a collection for the **CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL**. This Appeal supports missions here in the United States. The Catholic Home Missions Appeal offers Catholics across our country a wonderful opportunity to help fellow Catholics practice their faith in such rugged areas as Alaska, Appalachia, the Deep South, the Rocky Mountain states, the dusty Southwest, Puerto Rico, and island dioceses in the Pacific and Caribbean. The Catholic Home Missions Appeal is a practical way for our parish to share its faith and resources with the Mission Church here at home. Over 95 cents of every dollar donated to the Appeal goes directly to the missions to keep church doors open, to support pastors in their priestly ministry, and to provide basic pastoral services like religious education for children. Please give generously to assist fellow Catholics here in America. It's one practical way our parish community can be good stewards of God's gifts and make a difference.

SECULAR FRANCISCAN NEWS. In prayer, and service, and joy, St. Francis of Assisi followed Christ. Members of the Secular Franciscan Order strive to carry on Francis' ideals in the modern world. All are welcome to attend their meeting **Sunday, May 4, at 1:00 p.m.** in the Parish lounge. Social follows at 3:00 p.m. in the parish kitchen.

FOOD FOR FRIENDS. **Tuesday, May 6**, is St. Thomas More's turn to prepare and serve the needy in Norman. Cooking will start at **9:00 a.m.** in the Food for Friends Kitchen (104 W. Comanche). We will serve from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. ***We do need your help!*** If you can bring a dessert or help with the preparing and serving, please sign up in the Atrium in the coming week. Thank you!

"Come and listen all of you who fear God. Let me tell you what He has done for me. I cried out to Him with my mouth. His praise was on my tongue. If I had cherished sin in my heart the Lord would not have listened and heard my voice in prayer. Praise be to God who has not rejected my prayer or withheld His love from me." - PSALM 66:16-20

Thank you for your prayers. God loves you... so do I.  **- JUNE SILVA, PARISHIONER**

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

On Hawaii's island of Oahu, visitors to Diamondhead can choose to climb to the top from inside the crater which forms the famous landmark. Although the hike is only eight-tenths of a mile, the path winds back and forth over rocks and dirt, culminating in a 200-step stairway and a stooped walk through a dimly lit tunnel. Sweating, out of breath, one emerges at the top, to one of the most beautiful vistas in the world.

"I am the way, the truth, and the life," Jesus tells his disciples in today's Gospel reading from John. "No one comes to the Father except through me." Our path has been made clear for us, and although we can see the reward at the end, we still must look down at each step along that path in order to keep our footing. We can reach that reward, but only if we allow Jesus to guide us every step of the way.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that the Word of God is a light for our path. We must assimilate it in faith and prayer and put it into practice. This is how moral conscience is formed (CCC 1802). On this fifth Sunday of Easter, we should remember that Christ cleared the most difficult path for us through his Passion and resurrection and now offers to take our hand along the way.

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WEEKLY READINGS

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 20, 2008

Sunday: Acts 6:1-7/1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12
Monday: Acts 14:5-18/Jn 14:21-26
Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Jn 14:27-31a
Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/Jn 15:1-8
Thursday: Acts 15:7-21/Jn 15:9-11
Friday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14/Mk 16:15-20
Saturday: Acts 16:1-10/Jn 15:18-21
Next Sunday: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/1 Pt 3:15-18/Jn 14:15-21

REMEMBER IN PRAYER. It is our responsibility in the Lord to remember the sick who are especially close to the Redeemer in their suffering. Listed below are people who have requested our prayerful intercession. **Call our Prayer Line to add or delete someone from the prayer list at 405.447.7055.**

VISIT THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL AND PRAY FOR: The preservation of the dignity and sanctity of all life; victims and survivors of violence; troubled marriages; vocations; peace; justice; our service men, women and their families (*Colleen Dennison, Matthew Ghigliotti, Cindy Molia, Angelique Pearson, Michael Scanlon and Clint Wilson*); the hungry; the homeless; the abused; the unemployed; and our youth; **THE SICK...** Harold Heiple, Rufina Jordan, Susan Lee, Susan Lepak, Sharon Poe, Bob Quinnett, Sr. Paulette Schiffelbaum and Elizabeth Strategos; **THOSE IN MOURNING...** The Dillard, Flusche, McNeal and Schones families; **THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF...** Robert Creedon, Jamie Dillard, Reverend Ernest A. Flusche, and Geraldine McNeal.

VIGIL CANDLES in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel burn for your special intentions. *Donations are appreciated.*

MASS STIPENDS are payable to Reverend Ray K. Ackerman in the amount of \$10.00, *if you can afford it.*

IF THERE IS AN EMERGENCY, and you need to reach a priest, please dial **405.321.0990 Ext. 208.**

REMEMBER THE POOR. Please remember to drop a donation in the **POOR BOX** as you exit. All proceeds go to the **St. Vincent de Paul Society** who assist the needy of Norman and Noble with utilities and rent. Thank you!

ANGER, CONFLICT AND FORGIVENESS, Saturday, May 3, 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Sister Marie Ballman, OSB. This spiritual approach helps you to identify the unresolved anger and conflicts that affect your relationships. Learn the difference between forgiveness and reconciliation, and let go of the pain. Come to the Library at Red Plains Monastery, SW of Piedmont. Call 405.373.4739 to register. Send in your \$35 to reserve a place. Bring a sack lunch.

A LABYRINTH RETREAT, Saturday, May 3, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Sister Melissa Anna Letts, OSB. We each have a sacred center of God within us. Enter the sacred circle of the Labyrinth on a pilgrimage to your center and into the Heart of God. Learn how to let go of the obstacles that prevent you from starting or continuing your sacred journey. Come to the Art Barn at Red Plains Monastery, SW of Piedmont. Call 405.373.4739 to register. Mail in \$35 to reserve your place. Bring a sack lunch.

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THANK YOU! Sacramental wine and parish website provider is courtesy of **Mr. Joe Lies**, parishioner and owner of Joe's Place. Danishes provided on Sunday are courtesy of **Mr. Johnny Jazzar**, parishioner and owner of La Baguette Bistro and French Bakery. Donuts are courtesy of **Mr. & Mrs. Mick and Sue Hinton**, parishioners.