



Trinity Sunday

June 3, 2007

Readings

This week:

Proverbs 8:22-31
Romans 5:1-5
John 16:12-15

Next week:

Genesis 14:18-20
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
Luke 9:11b-17

Psalm

O Lord, our God, how wonderful your name in all the earth! *Psalm 8*

Today

Today's presider is Fr. George Aranha.

The Thomas Merton Center community worships and celebrates Sunday liturgy each week at the regularly scheduled 8:45 a.m. parish Mass at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Waverley and Homer Streets, Palo Alto. Members of the Thomas Merton community participate in planning these liturgies in the spirit of Vatican II and its call to "full, active and conscious participation" in Catholic liturgical life.

The Thomas Merton Center is supported by your donations. If you choose to donate, there are return envelopes in the bulletin on the last Sunday of each month for your convenience (donations by check or cash are welcome). The donation basket is in the back of church after Mass or available by the coffeepot after Mass—or you can use the envelope to mail your donation. Please do not put your TMC envelope in the collection baskets passed during Mass (these are for parish contributions only).

Calendar

No meetings this week. Enjoy the outdoors!

From Thomas Merton

In the Father the infinite Love of God is always beginning and in the Son it is always full and in the Holy Spirit it is perfect and it is renewed and never ceases to rest in its everlasting source. But if you follow Love forward and backward from Person to Person, you can never track it to a stop, you can never corner it and hold it down and fix it to one of the Persons as if He could appropriate to Himself the fruit of the love of the others. For the One Love of the Three Persons is an infinitely rich giving of Itself which never ends and is never taken, but is always perfectly given, only received in order to be perfectly shared.

It is because the Love of God does not terminate in one self-sufficient *self* that is capable of halting and absorbing it, that the Life and Happiness of God are absolutely infinite and perfect and inexhaustible. . . . [The] three Selves of God are. . . overflowing and superabounding in joy in the Gift of their One Life.

~New Seeds of Contemplation

Community Notes

News Announcements Requests

Stages in our spiritual development:

Sr. Helen Thompson, BVM, will present ***Evolution of Stages of Consciousness in Spiritual Development*** on Saturday, June 16, 9:30 a. m. till 3:00 p. m. at St. Albert the Great Hospitality Center, 1085 Channing Ave., PA. TMC members who heard a shortened version of this workshop in April at the *Call to Action* convention were strongly impressed by the clarity of Sr. Thompson's thinking. In this expanded June 16 session, she will present a road map through the four stages of the evolution of spiritual consciousness, both on a Western cultural and individual level. She talks about how shifts in consciousness come about, and how they affect our culture, our Church, and ourselves. She shows us the filters we inherit from our families and culture, and how to change these filters in our ever changing world as we move on our spiritual path.

Helen Thompson is a San Franciscan and BVM Sister with a PhD in Education from the University of Chicago and a Masters of Arts in theology from the Jesuit School of Theology at the GTU in Berkeley. She was a college teacher and administrator before joining the Core Faculty of the School of Applied Theology at the GTU, RSVP by June 10 to Sr. Elizabeth Avalos, (408) 569-7222, sociateabvm@mac.com.

A freewill offering to cover material, travel, preparation and facility will be appreciated. Sponsored by Elizabeth

Corpus Christi Sunday, June 10:

A message from Fr. Jon Pedigo/Linda Batton

One Bread, One Body - Corpus Christi Sunday

On this year's Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, the Catholic Church throughout the state of California has called each diocese to celebrate the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ with processions that highlight the Eucharistic Body of Christ and the Ecclesial Body of Christ. We are invited in particular to recognize the enduring contribution of the immigrant: new and old, in building up the Body of Christ, the Church. Please join participants across the diocese at noon on Sunday, June 10th at Cesar Chavez Plaza in downtown San Jose for a prayer service, Eucharistic procession to the Cathedral of St. Joseph with a Benediction in the Cathedral Garden. This will be followed by a Legislative Briefing on the Current State of Immigration Reform in the Cathedral Hall at 1:00 p.m. by Kevin Appleby, Policy Director of Migration and Refugee Services, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Speak up for health care on June 18:

Save the date, Monday, June 18. Your presence is needed at Woodside High School to emphasize the need to fund the Health Insurance plans at a mass meeting on Health Insurance for All Peninsula Adults. 1 in 8 working-aged adults in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties don't have health insurance and now is the time to find the funding to provide it for all these adults. **The mass meeting with supervisors Liz Kniss, Jerry Hill and Adrienne Tissier**, sponsored by Peninsula Interfaith Action, will take place at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, June 18, at Woodside High School, 199 Churchill Ave, Woodside, CA. Please come, the supervisors need to be impressed by the public support.

For further information (ride sharing, etc.) please call George Chippendale at 856-6350.

Immigration meeting in Mountain View:



An Immigration Forum, "Inform, Educate and Plan", is being held on June 3rd at St. Joseph Church in Mountain View, California and Hope Streets, today, June 3 from 2:30 pm to 4 pm. The forum, hosted by **Mesa de la Comunidad**, will present a panel of speakers, including Mountain View Police Chief Scott Vermeer, school superintendents Barry Groves and Maurice Ghysels, Director of Office of Human Relations, Richard Hobbs, and healthcare professional, Carolyn Purcell. All are invited.

Win-win with Kepler's rebates:

TMC earned a 2007 first-quarter rebate of \$78.19—Kepler's Community Partner donation to the Merton Center of Palo Alto. Kepler's reports that this quarter has seen increased participation by its Partners, so Kepler's has been able to send out its largest donations ever to schools and non-profits in the community. Kepler's appreciates our business and through our patronage it is able to support TMC. **Remember that you must mention TMC at the register before your purchases are rung up so Kepler's can continue to donate 10% of your purchases back to TMC.** So browse through Kepler's for the perfect graduation or wedding gift, or for your own summer reading, and mention TMC at the register.

Needs net:

Do you find yourself in need of a helping hand, a last minute car ride, a cat sitter, or the like? Between now and June 10, while Roberta is away, contact Bonnie at the Needs Net—(650) 838-9011.

Free monthly forum – Israel & Palestine: What peace could look like:

Tuesday, June 5 at 7 p.m, Community Media Center, 900 San Antonio Road, Palo Alto, monthly forum presented by *Other Voices* ~ Free and open to the public; be a part of the studio audience!

A conversation with **Rabbi Jeremy Milgrom** and **Husam El Nounou**. Two human rights activists, an Israeli and a Palestinian, discuss their work for a non-violent solution to the Israel-Palestine conflict. They will focus especially on their work with The Rebuilding Alliance, which seeks to rebuild Palestinian homes that have been demolished by Israel.

Rabbi Jeremy Milgrom is an American-born rabbi who has lived in Israel since 1968 and has pursued a just peace for Palestinians and Israelis throughout his career. He has been involved in important initiatives in the Israeli peace camp at their critical starting moments over the last twenty-seven years. Rabbi Milgrom has been a pioneer in interfaith partnerships with Christian and Moslem Palestinians. He co-founded and directed Clergy for Peace with Rev. Shehadeh Shehadeh and has been active in bringing volunteers to the West Bank to tutor Bedouin children of the Jahalin tribe who have been forcibly moved there from their home in the Negev.

Husam El Nounou is a co-founder of the Gaza Community Mental Health Programme (GCMHP), the Palestinian NGO that partners with the Rebuilding Alliance in the Rachel Corrie Rebuilding Campaign in Gaza. As the public relations coordinator for GCMHP, he serves as editor-in-chief of a bi-monthly magazine, *Amwaj*, and has chaired the organizing committees for five international conferences. Fluent in English and his native Arabic, and also proficient in Hebrew, Mr. El Nounou traveled to the U.S. in 2000 as part of the "International Visitors Program" organized by the U.S. State Department. He deeply believes in peace and coexistence and sees this as a human rights issue, one that ordinary people can impact.

Simultaneous Live Broadcast on Cable Channel 27 - Simultaneous Live Webcast at www.communitymediacenter.net

Rebroadcast throughout the month on Channel 27: Sundays, 12:00 noon; Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m.; Wednesdays, 2:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.; Thursdays, 5:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

TMC Library launch:

Have some "spirit" books you have read and wish to share? Donate them to the TMC Library which will open this fall. Roberta Kehret, our volunteer summer garage sales. Instead, please bring them to Mass with you on June 10, our first collection day, and place them in the metal cabinet. Roberta will direct you.



librarian, asks that you NOT give them up at them to Mass with you on June 10, our first collection day, and place them in the metal cabinet downstairs in the Thomas House after Mass.

Community Forum

Ideas Opinions Reflections Concerns

USCCB on proposed immigration legislation: Pope calls for cancellation of world debt: ***expresses reservations but calls for Congress to move ahead:***

Statement of Most Reverend Gerald R. Barnes, Bishop of San Bernardino, California, Chairman, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Migration on Senate Compromise Immigration Proposal, May 17, 2007
The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has consistently advocated for a just and comprehensive immigration reform bill. We have significant reservations about the compromise immigration proposal announced in the U.S. Senate. We believe it is important, however, that the legislative process move forward, so that improvements can be made to the legislation.

Specifically, Congress should ensure that any final

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The Vatican has this week published letters exchanged between the Pope and the German chancellor, Angela Merkel, discussing the upcoming Group of Eight Summit to be held this June 6 to 8 in Heiligendamm, Germany.

In his letter Pope Benedict says: "Provision must be made for the rapid, total and unconditional cancellation of the external debt of the heavily indebted poor countries and of the least developed countries. . . .

Debt cancellation "should be given the highest attention and priority, for the sake of poor and rich countries alike." At the same time, he adds there should be a substantial investment of resources for research and for the development of medicines to fight AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other tropical diseases.

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Catholic Bishops on immigration, continued: Permanent military presence in Iraq?:

(Continued from page 3)

legislation contains a legalization program which is workable and includes family unity and a fair and realistic path to citizenship, a new worker program which provides participants a meaningful opportunity to obtain permanent residency, and the preservation of family unity as an integral part of the U.S. immigration system. We intend to pursue changes in these important areas.

We urge the congressional leadership to ensure that the regular legislative process is honored, and that amendments to improve the legislation are permitted and given due consideration.

Immigration is an important domestic issue facing this country. Congress can no longer wait to repair our seriously flawed immigration system. We look forward to working with our elected officials in Congress to enact a law which both protects the basic human rights and dignity of persons and serves our national interest. #####

Pope on world debt, continued:

(Continued from page 3)

In the letters both the Pontiff and the German Chancellor agreed that poor countries should be relieved from servicing the debts for effective development, and measures should be adopted to ensure that the countries do not fall once again into situations of unsustainable debt.

The Pope's letter, dated December 16, says: "I welcome the fact that the question of poverty, with specific reference to Africa, now appears on the agenda of the G8." The Holy Father underlines that, "while these challenges should be undertaken by all members of the international community, the G8 and the European Union should take the lead."

In her reply on February 2, Merkel writes: "For me it is crucial that G8 relations with Africa move towards a reform partnership." She also says: "Our aim is to change the strategies for combating HIV/AIDS so that they take special account of the situation of women and girls." #####



Please remember in your prayers this week Elaine, Msgr. Gene Boyle, Chloe Chang, Joanne Claus, Mary Connors, Ken Dias, Joanne Hasegawa, François Jamati, Joseph Kehret, Alicia Kot, Joan Kuhn, Kami Ladd, Andre Lippard, Ric Lippard, Carol Locke, Mercedes McCaffrey, Eileen McNevin, Maureen Mooney, Stephanie Mullinex, Joe Narewski, Dorothea Nudelman, Hank Okanski, Lynne Owens, Hayden Pastorini, George Peinado, Nora Peinata, Ramona Rocha, Anne Rush, George Schardt, Jean Vistica, Dolores Walsh, and T. J. Wooten. [Add or subtract names from this list by e-mailing the three bulletin editors: Jane Bahr, Michelle Hogan, Kay Williams.]

A message from the Friends Committee on National Legislation, a Quaker lobby on national legislation:

Can you imagine a U.S. presence in Iraq for the next half-century? The president can !!! The White House press secretary announced this week President Bush wants to establish a permanent U.S. military presence in Iraq similar to the half-century long U.S. military role in South Korea.

A Violation of Law and Reality

Establishing permanent U.S. military bases in Iraq would be a violation of U.S. law -- **Congress has twice passed, and the president has signed, legislation which prohibits** the U.S. from spending money to establish a permanent U.S. military presence in Iraq. That is the law, at least for now. Originally proposed by FCNL, grassroots lobbying made that provision the law. The White House announcement that this administration wants to establish a permanent U.S. military presence in Iraq also reaffirms that this administration is simply not prepared to acknowledge the reality of what is happening in Iraq. The impression among Iraqis that the U.S. is planning a permanent military occupation of their country feeds the violent groups fighting the Iraqi government, helps them to recruit fighters, and undermines U.S. credibility throughout the Middle East region. Almost every opinion poll conducted in Iraq in the last three years -- including one commissioned by the State Department -- has confirmed that a majority of Iraqis fear the U.S. plans to permanently occupy their country, and majorities want the U.S. to leave Iraq. The White House announcement, itself, could further destabilize Iraq and the region, by setting off a new wave of anti-government violence; it could recruit more supporters for violent extremist groups such as Al Qaeda.

~ submitted by Dick Freeman

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Please join us for coffee, juice and pastries after Mass in the Memorial Garden next to the church. If this is your first time at this Mass, or you are visiting today, you are especially encouraged to stop by the garden; we'd like to get to know you!