



# Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

June 18, 2006

## Readings

*This week:*

Exodus 24:3-8

Hebrews 9:11-15.

Mark 14:12-16, 22-26

*Next week:*

Job 38:1, 8-11 (95B)

2 Corinthians 5:14-17

Mark 4:35-41

## Psalm

The Lord fed his people with the finest wheat and honey; their hunger was satisfied.. (Ps.80)

## Today

Today's presider is Father Michael Marini.

The Thomas Merton Center community worships and celebrates Sunday liturgy each week at the regularly scheduled 8:45 am 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

Sunday, June 18

Happy Father's Day! Happy Summer!

Monday, June 19, 7:30 pm

Spiritual Education, Thomas House basement

## From Thomas Merton

How many people there are in the world of today who have "lost their faith" along with the vain hopes and illusions of their childhood. What they called "faith" was just one among all the other illusions. They placed all their hope in a certain sense of spiritual peace, of comfort, or interior equilibrium, of self-respect. Then when they began to struggle with the real difficulties and burdens of mature life, when they became aware of their own weakness, they lost their peace, they let go of their precious self-respect, and it became impossible for them to "believe." That is to say it became impossible for them to comfort themselves, to reassure themselves, with the images and concepts that they found reassuring in childhood.

Place no hope in the feeling of assurance, in spiritual comfort. You may well have to get along without this. Place no hope in the inspirational preachers of Christian sunshine, who are able to pick you up and set you back on your feet and make you feel good for three or four days—until you fold up and collapse into despair.

Self-confidence is a precious natural gift, a sign of health. But it is not the same thing as faith. Faith is much deeper, and it must be deep enough to subsist when we are weak, when we are sick, when our self-confidence is gone, when your self-respect is gone.

—*New Seeds of Contemplation*

The Thomas Merton Center for Catholic Spiritual Development, P.O. Box 60061, Palo Alto, California 94306, was founded by a group of Roman Catholic lay persons in 1995, and incorporated in 1996, to offer Catholic liturgy, to augment, support and lead the development of ecumenical spirituality, and to foster new ways for Catholics and other Christians to develop a deeper spiritual relationship with Jesus Christ and, through him, with God. From its Catholic roots, it seeks to join with members of other faiths, Christian and non-Christian, to support religious education and spiritual development.

# COMMUNITY NOTES

## News Announcements Requests

### Redwood City Catholic Worker house needs:

Larry Purcell's monthly newsletter outlines the current needs at the Catholic Worker House at 545 Cassia Street in Redwood City:



1. Household needs: food in any amount, a broom, toiletries for young women, light bulbs (60 watts), garbage bags, sleeping bags, rope, gloves, old tools, weights, DVD's, movie tapes, etc.

2. Carpeting for a room at the house for teens (12' x 13').



3. Vehicles: a car for Mila to get to school and work, an RV or camper for Kate to live in and travel, and a car for Christina (a graduate of the house).

4. Teachers and tutors for our Language School which will start up again in September. Call Sr. Mary Jane (650) 366-8315.



5. Back packs filled with school supplies for children beginning school in September. CA Larry (650) 366-4415.

6. A house for a new Catholic Worker House, or money to buy one.

7. We are looking for full time live-in Catholic Workers. Being healthy, young, great lovers and willing to put all pay and benefits off until after death helps. Call Larry at 366-4415.

8. Your ongoing love and support.

### Kepler's Community Donation Program:



The Community Donation Program sponsored by Kepler's is working—and TMC can benefit from your book purchases at Kepler's. This means that 5% of every purchase at Kepler's by a person who mentions TMC at the time of checkout will be donated to TMC. So buy your books, calendars, magazines, cookbooks, children's books at Kepler's in Menlo Park, and, **before** you hand over your cash, check or credit card in payment, tell them TMC sent you.



Please remember in your prayers this week Elaine, Msgr. Gene Boyle, Maureen Carleton, Chloe Chang, Joanne Claus, Mary Connors, Ken Dias, Joanne Hasegawa, Frank Hayes, François Jamati, Joseph Kehret, Alicia Kot, Joan Kuhn, Kami Ladd, Chris Lippard & family, Carol Locke, Maureen Mooney, Stephanie Mullenix, Joe Narewski, Lynne Owens, Hayden Pastorini, George Peinado, Nora Peniata, Ramona Rocha, Anne Rush, Dolores Walsh, T. J. Wooten, Virginia Worthington, and Rosamond, Chris, and Janie (friends of Jean Gill).

### TMC Needs Net:

TMC member Roberta Kehret is seeking help to establish a network to link those who have a difficult or stressful situation going on in their lives with others who can help somehow to alleviate that difficulty or stress. This TMC Needs Net needs ideas and suggestions to become operative. Once it is established, the Needs Net will hopefully function almost on its own, with postings of needs being broadcast throughout the TMC and 8:45 am Mass community and responders coming forward as needed. Roberta will be present after Mass today to answer questions and encourage ideas and participation. She can be reached by phone at 650-494-1488 or by email at [robkehr@yahoo.com](mailto:robkehr@yahoo.com).

### Diocesan justice symposium June 24:



The Diocese of San Jose is sponsoring its second annual Justice Symposium—*Catholic Social Teaching: Good News in a Broken World*—Saturday, June 24, 8 am till 4 pm, at the Benson Center, Santa Clara University, \$45 includes lunch and materials. Keynote address by John Carr of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, legislative briefing on immigration issues by Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren, workshops and exhibits. Get the registration form at the diocesan website, [www.dsj.org](http://www.dsj.org), or call or email Linda Batton at (408) 983-0158, or [batton@dsj.org](mailto:batton@dsj.org).

### CTA Conference in 2008:



It is time to start planning the 2008 West Coast Regional CTA Conference. The event will be held at the Wyndham Hotel in San Jose April 25-27, 2008. Please take a look at your life and see if you are called to serve on the committee which is planning this event. If a good group of people agrees together to work on it, the job will be easy to manage. Sr. Joan Chittister has been asked to speak but she is unavailable. That's why it is imperative to get moving on this conference now. The next conference planning meeting will be on Sunday, July 30 at Ray and Ellen Turner's home in San Jose. Please join in to make this a great conference!

Contact Ellen J. Turner, President, CTA of Northern California at [ellenjturner@earthlink.net](mailto:ellenjturner@earthlink.net).

# COMMUNITY FORUM

*Ideas Opinions Reflections Concerns*

## **Tom McMahon to lead study groups:**

Tom McMahon is a long-time friend of TMC and a priest no longer in the active, institutional ministry who lives in San Jose and has ministered for nearly 30 years to a lay Catholic community. Tom is offering to lead an adult religious study group with ongoing book study, book loans and dialogue. Tom received \$500 to underwrite a program in *Spirituality for the Age of Technology*. Having left institutional ministry in 1980, Tom is always at spiritual work. He has researched and combined history, sociology, and psychology with many religions; he is an educator aware of the confusion that confronts adults today in reports of clerical tragedies, speculation in religious ideas and changing teachings (an unfortunate source being newspapers or books such as *The DaVinci Code*). He offers assistance to those who want to become better informed in matters of God, faith, spirituality, and religion. With his international and national contacts, Tom is aware that a spirituality fit for the age of technology will come from the heart of the people who live in the modern world. Peace, justice, a healthy relationship to God and mutual appreciation of all creation will come through adults. Tom feels that fear of a punishing God is still the greatest contributor to mental ill health in America. The day of the sermon, the big talk from a special lecturer, and reading by oneself has diminished value; the day of dialogue and exchange is here. We learn from each other and Tom feels that such is his privilege to serve. The average American reads one book a year; most Catholics are religiously educated to a third grade/first communion level. Few are able to deal with the emotional problems that have occurred. The *Baltimore Catechism*, the original of which was to be read only by priests who had gone to seminary in the 1800s, was made totally obsolete by Vatican II. Fr. To Reese SJ said recently at a talk that adult education is an absolute must.

Those interested will get underway with the study of two books: Robert Blair Kaiser's *A Church In Search of Itself* (Amazon.com \$16.35) and *Liberation of the Laity*, by Paul Lakeland. (Amazon-used \$3.53, both have postage added.). Kaiser appraises the present sociology of the Roman Church; through this book one can learn adult theology and history that will lend itself to dialogue. Lakeland's book offers a fascinating challenge to adult Christians, it goes back into the history of Cardinal Ives Congar and his promotion of the role

of the laity, a movement once suppressed in the 1930s yet brought back by John XXIII as the foundation of the Vatican II Council.

Participants will meet over the internet, hopefully a web site soon, by telephone, snail mail, and meetings in Tom's home or yours, if so arranged. Tom says participants will proceed as do the Italians *festina lente*, making haste slowly. There is no cost outside of postage and possible personal purchase of books. Please feel free to call Tom with questions and your ideas that may help develop this program. Tom McMahon 1085 Royal Acres Ct. San Jose, Ca. 95136, 408-723-8004 t-mc@earthlink.net.

## **Donations for CRS and Kiriti:**

**Catholic Relief Services:** TMC received a thank you letter from Catholic Relief Services, acknowledging the contribution of \$2,450 collected during Lent in the Rice Bowl project. These monies "allow[s] CRS to serve and care for the most vulnerable of God's children overseas," writes Ken Hackett, President of CRS.

**Kiriti Fund:** As of this week, donors to the Kiriti Fund have contributed approximately \$36,000 to the St. Francis Xavier Parish girls' high school building fund, the orphanage, and various individual students. These donations are already being put to work by Fr. Kiriti in his parish in Naivasha, Kenya. TMC member Margo McAuliffe, who has spearheaded this fundraising among her friends and TMC, is spending the summer in Naivasha, where she will be team-teaching in math classes, tutoring students, and helping Fr. Kiriti with the planning of the construction of the girls' high school. From time to time during the summer, Margo will send e-mail updates on her experiences and views of the work in the parish. Fr. Kiriti welcomes your e-mails, prayers, and good wishes, suggestions and encouragement: kiriti@wananchi.com.

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Board: Anna Jaklitsch, 650-327-0978, annajak@accesscom.com  
Kay Williams, 650-328-2781, kaywill@pacbell.net  
Bulletin: Kay Williams (July 2 and 16)  
Michelle Hogan (June 25, July 9 and 23)  
Jane Bahr (July 30)  
Community Builders: Barbara Kent, 323-0879  
Michelle Hogan, 493-8452  
Finance: Ed Hannibal, 321-0203, Judy Creek, 493-5371  
Hospitality: Jim Davis, 328-2584, George Locke, 854-1539  
Liturgy: John Arnold, 325-1421, jsaoso@earthlink.net  
Sally Benson, 408-972-5843, red5@svpal.org  
Membership: Mary Washburn, 650-327-3915  
Spiritual Education:  
Mary Coady, 650-261-9155, coady\_94025@yahoo.com  
Jim Davis, (650) 704-8002, Jim\_Davis@pacbell.net

## Father's Day Blessing of Men

Loving God,  
In your wisdom and love  
you made all things.  
Bless these men  
that they may be strengthened  
in their Christian faith.  
Let the example of their faith  
and love shine forth.  
Grant that we, their daughters,  
wives, and friends,  
may honor them always  
with a spirit of profound respect.  
Amen.

### *A poem for fathers:*

LOOKING SOUTH

The golden afternoons of my town  
kiss your forehead, your silence, and your cane  
and I, here, far from you, father,  
I build from my longing this song.

You ask the passing clouds  
if they have seen your children who are far away  
and in your sighs  
I know you are praying for us.

My old friend the wind has stolen my tears  
and taken them far to the south  
where your thirsty hands find them in the leaves  
of the apple tree we planted together.

You gave us your best years without measure,  
with love and patience you forged our path.  
Your passion for the earth, for liberty, for life  
is the flame that burns in my heart.

My father, from this distance,  
it hurts to think of you.  
As the sharp edge of the afternoon shadow  
wounds my soul, I say your name.

What comforts me  
is that you understand my flight.  
Though I am under far away skies,  
I keep my roots because of you.

My father, I will come back.  
In the shade of your years  
I will rest my weary dreams.  
I will stop and rest in your shadow.

*Lyrics by Homero Oyarce, Stanford Hospital Troubadour (translation by Kevin Carr)*

### *Andrew Greeley at Stanford June 29:*

***God and the Movies: A Conversation with Andrew M. Greeley, Thursday, June 29, 2006, 7:30-9:00 pm, in Kresge Auditorium, Abbott Way, Stanford.***

In this Aurora Forum conversation hear Andrew M. Greeley, a Roman Catholic priest and University of Chicago sociologist who writes and speaks extensively on the interface of contemporary religious and political themes. He is joined by Albert Bergesen, his colleague and coauthor for *God in the Movies*, a recent book on the religious imagination and contemporary cinema. Together they will present and reflect on the character and meaning of images of God when She or He appears in various guises on the silver screen.

Is the presence of God in the movies part of the rise of more fundamentalist and evangelical faith communities, or has it always been with us? Do religious topics in popular movies divide or unite the public? And when God appears in American movies, what is this God like? With reference to these and other questions, the audience will view film clips, talk, and develop a more critical awareness of the way depictions of God in film reveal current perspectives on existential and political themes.



#### **Andrew M. Greeley: Priest, Author, and Sociologist:**

One of the most influential Catholic thinkers of our time, Andrew M. Greeley is a professor of social sciences at the University of Chicago and the University of Arizona, and a research associate at the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at the University of Chicago. As a "Renaissance Priest" and scholar, he has recently published three new books: *The Catholic Revolution: New Wine, Old Wineskins, and the Second Vatican Council*; *Priests: A Calling in Crisis*; and *The Making of a Pope 2005*. In addition to scholarly studies and popular fiction, he pens a weekly column for the *Chicago Sun-Times*. Known for his mischievous Irish wit and trenchant commentary, Father Greeley is interviewed regularly on national radio and television.

#### **Albert J. Bergesen (Interviewer)**

Albert J. Bergesen is Professor of Sociology at the University of Arizona, has been a Visiting Professor at Stanford, and teaches in the Continuing Studies Program. This summer he is teaching "God in the Movies" for the Stanford Summer Session. He and Andrew Greeley coauthored *God in the Movies* in 2003. #