

The St. Albert the Great News



Carolyn Hofstetter

Mission Statement

The St. Albert the Great Site Committee--a vital part of the Pastoral Stewardship Council of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish--provides a forum for ideas, communication and leadership in matters of hospitality, environment, and initiatives, both new and ongoing, for the parishioners at the St. Albert the Great Site.

Mass Schedule

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Byzantine Mass

Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Confessions

Saturday 4:15-4:45 p.m.

SAG Site Committee

Patricia Briggs, Chair

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Easter 2015

Our beautiful St. Albert the Great Church was once again blessed to be the Holy Place where the celebration of the Easter Vigil occurred.



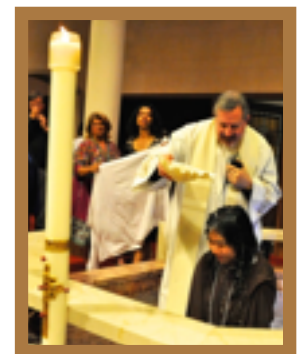
"This is the night of which it is written, it shall be bright as day, dazzling and full of gladness!"

An excerpt from the *Exultet*



The Easter Sacraments

Fifteen individuals received Full Christian Initiation. In addition there were two infant Baptisms. Two baptized Christians were received in the Full Communion of the Catholic Church and seven baptized Catholics received First Communion and/or Confirmation.

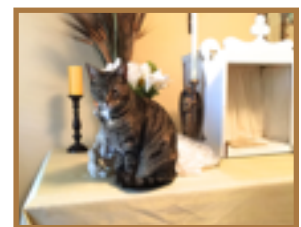


Joyce Fong, now Teresa Joyce Fong, is baptized by Father Matt.

Thoughts from One of the Elect

We are very blessed that God has led our family to His House. Even though we spent several months preparing for the Easter Vigil, we were overwhelmed and overjoyed. We felt we were entering the Church for the first time although we have been for almost two years. It was too intense for one family to receive so many sacraments at the same time. Lord, have mercy. Our family was brought closer together and closer with God. It will take us several months to unpack what we have received. Also, we are very thankful to His people who have taught us His Way with God's Word and their deeds.

Tom Fong



"Where have they taken my Lord....."

John 20:13

Easter Greetings from Julie, the Rectory Cat

A Tribute to Deacon Carl Bunje



I have been privileged to know Carl not only as a fellow parishioner and friend but also as an ordained deacon in the Diocese of San Jose since 1987 when I served in the Worship Office. Carl was devoted to his diaconal ministry. His great gift was in proclaiming the Gospel. The mantra in the Worship Office was "Carl Bunje is the best proclaimer in the Diocese." He read and prayed over the readings for days aided by his wife Helen who would listen to his proclamations (and his homilies) and give him valuable feedback.

Carl's gift was to make the Gospel come alive—his sonorous voice, deep faith, and ability to tell stories enabled the People of God to hear and celebrate the Good News that God for us is saving love.

How blessed is the Diocese of San Jose as well as we, St. Thomas Aquinas Parish and the community of St. Albert the Great, to have had Deacon Carl Bunje in our midst.

Anne Grycz

Carl and his wife Helen moved to what was then St. Albert the Great Parish in 1960. His career was in insurance law and he established a regional office for USF&G that covered the ten western states. He was ordained a Permanent Deacon on April 20, 1979. He died on March 28, 2015, at the age of 94.

A Family's View of Church

St. Albert the Great is our neighborhood Catholic church and we really enjoy coming to Mass here. Our children attend St. Raymond's School in Menlo Park and altar serve as part of their school/church lives there, but we try to make St. Albert the Great a regular part of our lives as much as possible. The sense of community and neighborhood connection is great. We like seeing friends from our neighborhood at Mass here. We also really enjoy the music ministry provided by Chris Lundin and his fellow musicians. One of our children was baptized at St. Albert, which is a special memory. Coming to church here really enriches our lives. Many thanks to Fr. Matt, Fr. Dat, Fr. Mikalonis and Deacon Dan for their faithful, loving and caring leadership and service to our parish.

The Thiemans

Downtown Food Closet

Please check the bulletin board in the vestibule for the April-May Special needs. Bags with donations can be left in the wagon at the door.

Citywide Yard Sale

An opportunity for us to shine...

The Community Life Ministry Team and the Parish Green Committee in conjunction with the STA, SAG and OLR sites, are co-sponsoring the parish wide participation in the bi-annual Palo Alto Citywide Yard Sale, which will be held on Saturday, June 6, between 8 AM and 2 PM. This is an opportunity for all of us to contribute meaningfully to working together with others in our community for a common cause, helping to save the environment by reusing and recycling items that we no longer use or need.

So now is your opportunity to do some spring cleaning. Find those treasures you no longer use and donate them to the sale. Reusing, whether you donate, buy or sell, is one of the best ways to reduce landfill. Donation receipts will be available.

Our sale will be held in the driveway and garden at St. Thomas Aquinas Church. The coordinators will need help at the STA site on Saturday and Sunday, May 30 and 31, 12 PM to 5 PM, to receive donations. **Note: This is also the time and place for your own drop-offs.** They also need help on Friday, June 5 from 9 AM to 5 PM, and the day of the sale, June 6.

The following is a compelling reason for members of our site to be involved. The co-sponsoring groups have decided to contribute the proceeds of the sale to the St. Albert the Great site for much needed upgrades in the church, which are unfunded at this time. Let's come together as a community and help make this worthy project a reality.

For any questions, and to volunteer your time, please contact Chris Canelo at auntchris@hotmail.com.



The Thiemans Family

Joe, Amy, Luke (12), Anna (10), and Sarah (7)

The "Baby" Room

Our room for babies and toddlers is located to the left of the sanctuary and is reached through the lefthand exit door. It is comfortable and soundproof and allows little ones space and activities while parents participate in the Mass.