



Sunny Heart

A community united in Christ

SHARING OUR TIME, TALENT AND TREASURE TO SERVE GOD AND ONE ANOTHER

Issue 04-Volume01-January 2006

Happy New Year

A Letter from our Pastor

Jesus said to the apostles: **“Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give.”**

With these powerful words, Jesus sent his apostles to begin their ministry of preaching. And the instructions given to them continue to echo through the centuries to us today: To go out to the world with our God-given talents and treasure and combine them with our other most precious asset, time: we are to give our gifts away!

This is the fourth issue of our parish newsletter, and I hope it continues to draw us together to really look at the needs of our parish and to inspire us to make a difference. In this issue, you will continue to read profiles of parishioners who are truly living what discipleship is all about. And, inspired by the spirit of stewardship, they continue to be shining examples of service and selflessness.

Somewhere along with this spirit, these

stewards usually have a religious experience. They describe the blessings they receive by serving the parish and school in their ministry. By sharing their time and talents, they become a source of inspiration as well.

I am so blessed to have been assigned here at St. Cyprian. It has been a great privilege to meet and work with parishioners and school parents whose commitment to both parish and school is incredibly powerful. At the same time, I can honestly say that the opportunity to know and experience the parish and school through all of you has changed my life as a priest.

I continue to learn as a new pastor and I constantly pray for the wisdom and the generosity to serve you in a way that honors the description of our parish, a community united in Christ. Thank you for this great opportunity to journey with you. I encourage you to continue the important work that we do in the parish and school. Our success depends on our willingness to share our time, talent and treasure – gifts that would truly create a united community.

Fr. Arthur Yabs



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Visit our website
www.saintcyprian.org
for more info

Stewardship

“Let us go to love and serve the Lord and one another.”

The disciples of Jesus are sent out; we are also sent out. The Christian life is all about being sent out. To be Jesus’ disciples, we must go; and here is Jesus’ mandate for mission as the New Year unfolds.

Our liturgy locates the heart of the gospel message in its dismissal. The dismissal sends us out in peace. It sends us out into the world where we are to love and serve the Lord. The point is made: The worship is over; now the service begins.

In Latin, these words are: *Ite, missa est*. Literally, “Go, it is the dismissal.” And it’s from the Latin word for dismissal that we get the word “Mass.” So the words for Mass and Mission share the same root. Thus, the purpose of the Mass is Mission.

The dismissal presumes that we are ready to go because the Mass prepares us to go: by feeding us with the Word of God in scripture, song and prayer and by feeding us with the Word-made-flesh in bread and wine. The confession of sin prepares us to travel light by letting us shake the dust off the stuff of our own failures, lest they burden us needlessly as we go. The offertory allows us to open our hands to give, so we can come empty-handed to the altar to receive that which will sustain us until the next time we are here. The entire liturgy ensures that we are sent out forgiven, loved and free.

There’s a saying that God loves us enough exactly as we are but loves us too much to leave us that way. In other words, we’re here to be changed, to leave different than the way we were when we came in.

Someone wrote: “At its heart, our Eucharist is not a philosophical construct. It is a process, God-given, which catches us up and then transforms us. In this way, it mirrors the two things that God does for us in Jesus Christ: first, he shares our life; then he changes it.” Encounter with the living God, in word and sacrament, changes us.

The church is the place where the story of God’s goodness is told week after week after week. Every time we come together to make Eucharist, we gather to hear the story through the Liturgy of the Word and we gather to act out the story in the celebration of the sacrament. The dismissal then invites us to go forth with the story that it might unfold in tangible ways in our lives and in the lives of those whom

we meet along the way.

But we don’t just leave. We are sent out and we are shaped and formed by the character of the One who sends us. The one who sends us is the One who gathers up all things in heaven and on earth. He is the One who gives us the authority to go. He gives us the guts to go. And, he wants our lives to be the message. He wants us to incarnate the message: to give it flesh by our very being and not be obscured by the weight of our things.

The Eucharist opens up the mission field to include every encounter we have with others.

Parishioners Profile

Cathy Pustelnik



Cathy was born in El Paso, Texas but raised in San Antonio. Husband Steve was born in Mt. View, California but grew up in Sunnyvale. They met in Texas, got married in Los Altos, California and later moved to Sunnyvale, where they currently live. Son Grant was born in Folsom, California. The Pustelniks wanted their child to grow up in Texas but because of Grant’s allergies, they decided to move to the Bay Area.

St. Cyprian’s felt like home to Cathy and Steve the first time they walked through the doors. They said that everyone is very welcoming in the school. They also like the parish for many reasons but the primary one is its parishioners. They feel Grant is growing with a community where faith and integrity are living values,

something for which they are deeply grateful.

Cathy is an active volunteer at school this year, assisting our teachers in Art and Computer. In addition to the school, Cathy's activities include her involvement with the School Advisory Council and she also helped at the recent Christmas Eve pageant.

The Pustelniks share their home with a dog named Simba. Cathy, Steve and Grant, thank you for being with us!

The Quichocho Family: Tony, Jennifer and Adam

The Quichocho family was first brought to St. Cyprian's through a search on Google by Jennifer. And, St. Cyprian Parish was just 5 minutes away! She and son, Adam, decided to attend the 6PM Mass and someone welcomed them at the door with a "HELLO" and struck a conversation. Jennifer said: *"It really started out with the friendly and prayerful atmosphere in the church. I was attracted to the music of James O'Connell; then, I called Tony right away to join us. He was out of town on a charter."* (Tony was a charter pilot and instructor for a Palo Alto based company.)

Tony was born in a naval base hospital in Subic, Philippines; Jen was also born in another US naval base in Yokosuka, Japan. They got married in San Diego, after Tony received a commission in the Marine Corps. 9 years later, after moving back to San Diego, Adam was born. Currently, Adam is in the 5th grade at St Cyprian School. Now retired from the Marines, Tony serves as a music minister, Jen is one of our Eucharistic Ministers and Adam does his part as altar server. Here is a family that practices Christian stewardship as a way of life. Jennifer explained: *"My parents are a huge influence in my life...through their example, I learned what service means."* Although Tony was raised Catholic he, like many teens, eventually stopped practicing his faith after Confirmation. It was Jennifer's example that brought him back to the Church.

Currently, the Quichochoes live in Mountain View. They have also lived in Virginia, Florida and North Carolina. Jen works as an executive assistant to a CEO of a software company while Tony is a full-time dad, part-time chauffer, part-time sales rep for church bulletin and a budding property investor. You may notice Tony is someone who doesn't sit still. He's even learning how to play the guitar. Who knows, someday, he wouldn't only be the lead singer but will wind up as one of our instrumentalists for the Mass. Jennifer has an interest in crafts, while Adam is fascinated with serving at Mass.

In addition to his music ministry Tony represents the young adults on our Parish Advisory Council. Both he and Jennifer serve as core team members for St Cyprian's SVYA and serve St Cyprian School (Tony: School Advisory Council; Jen as 5th Grade Room Parent). Tony said: *"I love this church because we're like a small town community and everyone reaches out to each other. Serving God makes sense, in return for the love, support and friendship our family has received."*



Tony is one of our candidates at the Institute for Leadership in Ministry. He's in his first year of the 3-year program. He said: *"I'll tell ya it's not for the half-committed types. ILM is truly life-changing. Initially, I enrolled to be fed by the Word of God but found myself even hungrier to learn more about my faith and my role in the church. I am developing a great relationship with the Lord, which allows me to share His love with my family, friends and people I meet. It's funny now when I visit my mom in San Diego. She introduces me to her friends as 'the religious one.' You'd chuckle if you knew me a few years ago."* He continued: *"The diocesan program gives me an intellectual background of my faith. It's instilling in me a wonder and an awe of God's love. Today, my involvement in the parish as a music minister has become a catalyst for my spiritual growth. Who'd have thought 2 years ago that singing at my son's First Communion would catapult me into doing so much for the community?"*

Join me in thanking Tony, Jennifer and Adam for showing us what true stewards truly are.

THEOLOGY On TAP

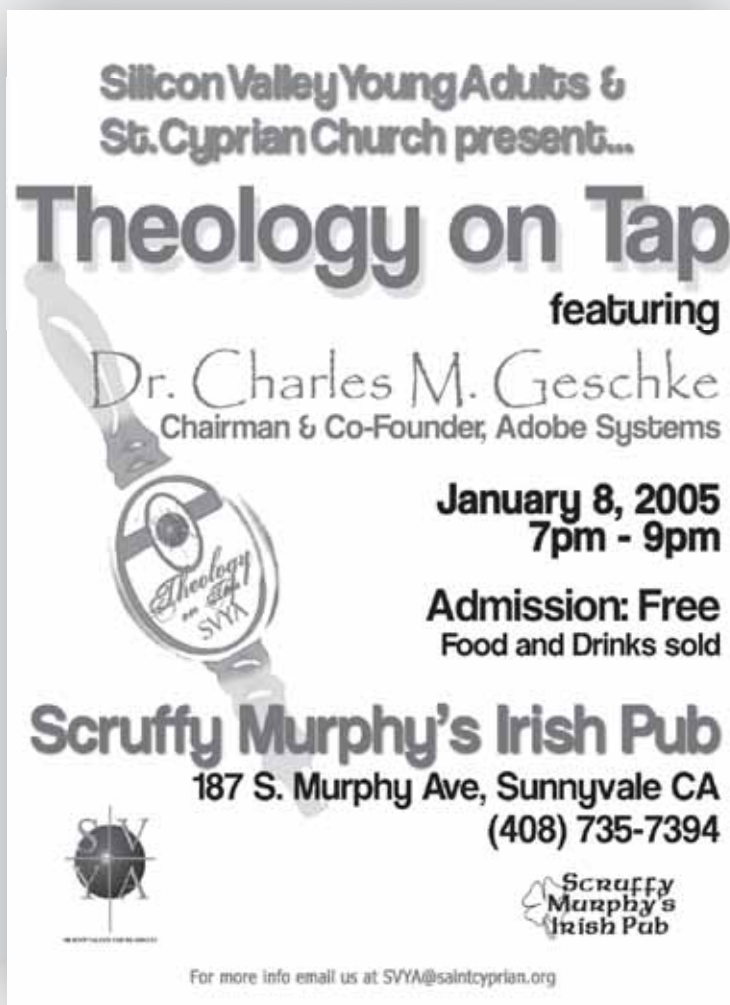
Theology on Tap started in Chicago 25 years ago. Since then the concept of going to a place where young adults hang out to share the message of Jesus Christ and the Church has spread across the country.

Here at St. Cyprian, we started our Theology on Tap program last year. From January through May of 2005, the Silicon Valley Young Adults brought in several speakers to **Scruffy Murphy's Irish Pub and Restaurant** in downtown Sunnyvale. The event was an instant success as the bar was consistently packed with people from all over the Bay Area interested in having a beer and talking about God. The topics included **The Seven Deadly Sins**, **Finding a Spiritual Path Through the Silicon Valley**, **The Holy Spirit**, and **Christian Discipleship: Why Bother?**.

The Theology on Tap events were such an interesting idea that the **San Jose Mercury News** wrote a full story on it. The article spawned a radio interview on **KGO** and television news stories on three local night time newscasts.

This year is starting off on strong footing as Silicon Valley Young Adults present **Chuck Geschke**, co-founder and chairman of *Adobe Systems* as he shares "**Building a Successful Business on Catholic Principles**". He will speak on **Sunday January 8, 7:30pm at Scruffy Murphy's**.

Future speakers will include **Fr. Brendan McGuire** on February 19. In May, **Fr. Kevin Joyce** will be giving a talk on the **DaVinci Code** just as the movie is scheduled to premier.



Silicon Valley Young Adults &
St. Cyprian Church present...



Theology on Tap

featuring
Dr. Charles M. Geschke
Chairman & Co-Founder, Adobe Systems

January 8, 2005
7pm - 9pm

Admission: Free
Food and Drinks sold

Scruffy Murphy's Irish Pub
187 S. Murphy Ave, Sunnyvale CA
(408) 735-7394



For more info email us at SVYA@saintcyprian.org