

August 2, 2009

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

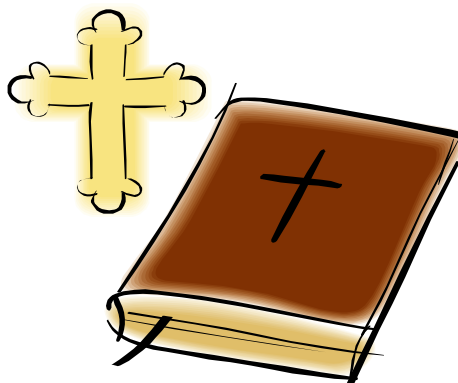
# Saint John Vianney

A Mission Church of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish serving you since August 10, 1997  
1000 26th Ave NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87144

[www.stjohnvianneyparish.org](http://www.stjohnvianneyparish.org)

Friends in Christ,

This week the Church celebrates the feast of St. John Vianney. Since this year is the year of Priests, and since St. John Vianney is the patron of priests, we celebrate St. John with a special joy. Check the St. Thomas bulletin to find out what special devotions will be celebrated this week at St. Thomas. As for us, we will celebrate St. John Vianney next Sunday, in the our church/parish hall, beginning at 11 AM. Please come and celebrate our patron, and come hungry. We will have plenty of food, and we will have some nice things to give away.



Have a blessed week,

Fr. Scott Mansfield

Baptism after the 8:00AM Mass

**September 13<sup>th</sup>**

Baby: Daniel Logan Schutten

Parents: David & Seveda Schutten

**Receive our bulletin via eMail**

Visit our website at [www.sjvnm.org](http://www.sjvnm.org) and click on

**Subscribe** to be added to the eMailing list.

**Holy Rosary**

20 Minutes before each mass

**Holy Masses**

Saturday ..... 4:00PM

Sunday..... 8:00AM

Sunday..... 10:00AM

**Sacrament of Confession**

Saturday ..... 3:00-3:45PM

## Upcoming Events

August 9th, 11:15..... Pot Luck

1st Sunday of every month..... Food Collection for Charity

## Welcome our new parish members:

Donald & Ashley Shainin || Henry & Christine Garcia

### *Ushers / Rosary Leaders Wanted*

Ushers are needed for the 4PM Mass on Saturday.

Rosary Leaders are needed for the Sunday 10AM Mass.

If you are able to serve in either positions please give your name/ eMail/number to one of the Ushers.

### THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"No, Dolly, our father art downstairs watching TV."

from *The Joyful Noiseletter*  
Reprinted with permission of Bill Keane

Thank you for all those that showed up Monday to assist in the cleaning of the church.

### LOT'S WIFE

The Sunday School teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Jason interrupted, 'My Mommy looked back once while she was driving,' he announced triumphantly, 'and she turned into a telephone pole!'

## ***Pot Luck is August 9th after the 10AM Mass***

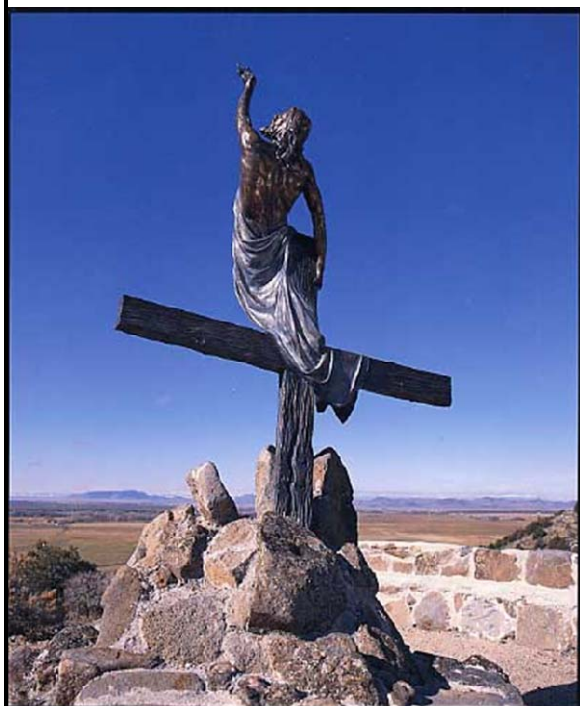


## St. John Vianney's Gift Certificate Giveaway During the Pot Luck on August 9th

Ah! Capeli Salon	1 Gift Card	\$75.00
Any Time Fitness	6 Month Membership	\$476.00
Banana Leaf Restaurant	1 Meal Gift Card	\$20.00
Best Buy	iPod shuffle (ages 11-16)	\$50.00
Chamisa Hills Country Club	Round of Golf for two	\$90.00
D'Jer Saon	2 Gift Cards	\$35.00
Massage Envy	1 Hour Massage	\$39.00
New Mexico Quick Care	1 free Health Exam	\$50.00
Pei Wei Restaurant	1 Meal Gift Card	\$20.00
Sam's Club	1 Gift Card	\$25.00
Straight Chiropractic	Exam & Consultation	\$250.00
Yakety Yak	3 Gift Cards	\$30.00

\*Must be present to win. Tickets will be handed out at the Pot Luck.

### The "Resurrection" portrait donated by Elena Chavez will be raffle off for \$1/ticket



#### Huberto Maestas SCULPTOR

Alberto Maestas is an internationally recognized artist-sculptor. His work is diversified and includes the human form, wildlife, and inanimate objects. He received his formal education at Adams State College, CO.

Maestas' work is in private collections and is exhibited internationally. In recent years Maestas has been working on a commission in Southern Colorado that includes a monumental project of fifteen outdoor sculptural bronzes.

The first edition maquettes of the Stations of the Cross are in the permanent collection of the Vatican Museum in Rome, Italy since May 1999. Huberto's art captures the spirit of the human experience. His work displays drama, passion and humanity through his energetic vision and technical skill. Maestas sculpts movement and energy that is innate in life itself.

Defending Our Faith - Apologetics and Evangelization by John Lombardo

## America's Future in a Relativistic Culture

Dear friends in Christ, I needed to write something uplifting after weeks of discussing America's political, social, and religious problems. My research unearthed an editorial article I filed from the July 4-10 edition of the National Catholic Register. The subtitle of this editorial "America's Future Depends on Catholics" gives a positive emphasis on how we Catholics can change our country's morals for the better.

"Why dedicate a special issue to the future of America? Because the promise of the Declaration of Independence has never been quite fulfilled. But it can be, if *religious people and especially Catholics* do their job.

In its earliest years, America celebrated the right to liberty every Fourth of July even though slavery made the those celebrations a lie. But then Christian abolitionists and the deeply religious Abraham Lincoln would end slavery by calling the country back to its founding principles.

After that, we celebrated the right to the pursuit of happiness even while we denied women the right to vote and refused to give blacks equal dignity with whites. But Christian suffragettes like Susan B. Anthony and a civil-rights movement led by Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. changed that, again by appealing to our founding principles.

Today we celebrate the right to life on the Fourth of July despite being a nation in which abortion is the most common surgery performed on mothers under the age of 40. And today, as always, it is religious people who are insisting America follow its founding vision.

### **Religion is the key to America's future for three reasons:**

Religion is key because America's founding principles are religious principles. Our Founding Fathers declared that we are "endowed by Our Creator" with certain rights. Their foundation was the "laws of nature and of nature's God."

Religion is key because America is a system of self-government. People who live by a high standard of conduct can be trusted to govern themselves. People who don't, can't. If moral commitment doesn't control the people, government must.

And third, religion is key to America's future because there really is a God who is our creator. He really is the basis of the authority of government, the animator of our freedom and the source of our morality. He really does bless those who recognize him. And those who fall out of grace with him *always do so at their ruin*. In his 1996 trip to Baltimore, Pope John Paul II pointed out that "the democratic system itself" is "shaken to its foundations" when it is twisted against human rights.

But America, he said, "possesses a safeguard, a great bulwark, against this happening. I speak of your founding documents: the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights. These documents are grounded in and embody unchanging principles of the natural law whose permanent truth and validity can be known by reason, for it is the law written by God in human hearts."

**If religion is the key to America, then the biggest crisis in our country right now is its crisis of faith.**

It is a crisis in which the Constitution and the Bill of Rights are invoked *against* the religious consciences of the people. Government too often *impedes* religion by denying Americans their right

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to pray at public gatherings, stripping religious symbols from the public square and banishing God to private life. We are in a crisis when government won't allow families to protect their children from pornography, couples to protect marriage from being redefined or society to protect women and their children from the predatory clutches of big business of abortion.

The Holy Father told the national Prayer Breakfast in 2000 that it is up to religious people to end this crisis. "I would go as far as to say that their task is to save democracy from self-destruction," he said.

"Democracy is our best opportunity to promote the values that will make the world a better place for everyone, but a society that exalts individual choice as the ultimate source of truth undermines the very foundation of democracy." We would argue this task falls to Catholics most of all.

After all, Catholic theology uniquely understands the interrelationship between natural law and divine revelation. Just as Thomas Aquinas was the great defender of both theology and common sense, Catholics today uniquely understand aspects of natural law the world has forgotten: Our teaching on abortion, marriage and even contraception are defenses of what man can know without revelation. ( I discussed this in my last 5 articles.)

Second, Catholics are most responsible for the future of America because of sheer numbers. Immigration from Mexico and family sizes mean the old Protestant America is falling off a demographic cliff. Tomorrow's America will no longer be white and Protestant but browner and Catholic.

And last, Catholics are most responsible for the future of America because we are the Church founded by Christ on the rock of Peter, the one church that Christ promised would prevail against the gates of hell.

Certainly, other Christian denominations rightly worship God, as the Second Vatican Council said. But Christ founded one Church, not many denominations, and that one Church is the one that carries God's Guarantee.

Catholics already have a clear plan to follow to begin the task of re-Christianizing America. It's "The Plan" unveiled by Pope John Paul II in his apostolic letter...*At the Beginning of the New Millennium*.... He called for a creative, vigorous and wide-scale promotion of the fundamentals of Catholic life: Sunday Mass, confession, prayer, and community service. These basic practices are simple to explain, they are an easy sell for most people and, when followed, they transform lives. If we promote them successfully, we will spark a major religious renewal.

Alongside this "New Evangelization," Catholics need to take a direct involvement in the political questions of our day. As the candidacy of Sen. John Kerry shows, too often Catholics reject the tenets of our faith for political expediency. Our first task is to reject such candidates. And we are rejecting them. As the many examples of our front page show, Catholics who refuse to dissent from the key tenets of their faith are already making a difference in the political arena.

Can we succeed? The Pope thinks so. We should accept and imitate the optimism he showed at the 2000 National Prayer Breakfast. There he said: Today America's optimism is being tested, but the Gospel of Jesus Christ remains the sturdy foundation of hope for the future."

What happens when Catholics deviate from Catholic instruction concerning pro-life issues as occurred in our last general election? We reap what we sow! I pray the Holy Ghost comes upon all people, especially Catholics and those who call themselves Catholic, to inspire us to appreciate and acknowledge the concept of natural law in relation to pro-life concerns. In God We Trust.

## Saint John Mary Vianney: On Avarice

Avarice is an inordinate love of the goods of this world.

Yes, my children, it is an ill-regulated love, a fatal love, which makes us forget the good God, prayer, the Sacraments, that we may love the goods of this world--gold and silver and lands. The avaricious man is like a pig, which seeks its food in the mud, without caring where it comes from. Stooping towards the earth, he thinks of nothing but the earth; he no longer looks towards Heaven, his happiness is no longer there. The avaricious man does no good till after his death. See, how greedily he gathers up wealth, how anxiously he keeps it, how afflicted he is if he loses it. In the midst of riches, he does not enjoy them; he is, as it were, plunged in a river, and is dying of thirst; lying on a heap of corn, he is dying of hunger; he has everything, my children, and dares not touch anything; his gold is a sacred thing to him, he makes it his divinity, he adores it. . . .



O my children! how many there are in these days who are idolators! How many there are who think more of making a fortune than of serving the good God! They steal, they defraud, they go to law with their neighbour; they do not even respect the laws of God. They work on Sundays and holydays: nothing comes amiss to their greedy and rapacious hands. Good Christians, my children, do not think of their body, which must end in corruption; they think only of their soul, which is immortal. While they are on the earth, they occupy themselves with their soul alone. So you see how assiduous they are at the Offices of the Church, with what fervour they pray before the good God, how they sanctify the Sunday, how recollected they are at holy Mass, how happy they are! The days, the months, the years are nothing to them; they pass them in loving the good God, with their eyes fixed on their eternity. . . .

Seeing us so indifferent to our salvation, and so occupied in gathering up a little mud, would not anyone say that we were never to die? Indeed, my children, we are like people who, during the summer, should make an ample provision of gourds, of melons, for a long journey; after the winter, what would remain of it? Nothing. In the same way, my children, what remains to the avaricious man of all his wealth when death comes upon him unawares? A poor covering, a few planks, and the despair of not being able to carry his gold away with him. Misers generally die in this sort of despair, and pay eternally to the devil for their insatiable thirst for riches. Misers, my children are sometimes punished even in this world.

Once Saint Hilarion, followed by a great number of his disciples, going to visit the monasteries under his rule, came to the abode of an avaricious solitary. On their approach, they found watchers in all parts of the vineyard, who threw stones and clods of earth at them to prevent their touching the grapes. This miser was well punished, for he gathered that year much fewer grapes than usual, and his wine turned into vinegar. Another solitary, named Sabbas, begged him, on the contrary, to come into his vineyard, and eat the fruit. Saint Hilarion blessed it, and sent in to it his religious, to the number of three thousand, who all satisfied their hunger; and twenty days after, the vineyard yielded three hundred measures of wine, instead of the usual quantity of ten. Let us follow the example of Sabbas, and be disinterested; the good God will bless us, and after having blessed us in this world, He will also reward us in the other.

	Sacristans	Ushers	EM of Holy Communion	Rosary Leader	Altar Servers	Lectors
Sat Aug 1st 4:00PM	David Crawford	Frank Charles Ed Uhrich	Jeremy McClellan	Bill McCarty	James Uhrich Emilio Crespin Victoria Perez	Pam McCarty Bill McCarty
Sun Aug 2nd 8:00AM	Julie Burnside	Tom Anderson John Christensen Bill Deneen Karl Lucero	Harlan Harrington	Sheila Howard	Albert Ibarra Peter Lucero Charles Lucero	Petrita Lopez David Schutten
Sun Aug 2nd 10:00AM	Donna Madrid	Aaron Quinones Brian Padilla Nick Coca III Juan Serna	Loretta Tafuro Coz Madrid Janis Crespin	Peggy Riley	Jamie VLS Jessica VLS Rocky Peyton Karla Del Cid	Ana Padilla Pinky Bjornstad
Sat Aug 8th 4:00PM	David Crawford	Ed Uhrich Eddie Crespin	George Parascandola	Bill McCarty	Chase McMillan Victoria Perez	Annette Montoya Vicky Howell
Sun Aug 9th 8:00AM	Margaret Chavez	James E Dory Tom Anderson John Christensen David Schutten	Laurie Storms	Frances Perko	Shane Herrera Sergio Guillen Josh Kast	Jose Guillen Racquel Torres
Sun Aug 9th 10:00AM	Geri Hoover	Tony Quinones Aaron Quinones Frank Charles Ariana Eck	Brian Padilla Pinky Bjornstad Ana Marie Hartenhoff	Rochelle Quinones	Krista Savela Kevin Savela Gary Vigil Amanda Vigil	Michael Tafuro Peggy Riley

### ***Prayer Corner***

Let us join as a community in prayer for our fellow parishioners and/or their family members.

- ◆ For the soul of Sgt. Joseph “Joe” Anthony Harris and for his family members. (7/22)
- ◆ For Healing and Peace for Bill Rounds, and for his wife, Vickie (7/19)
- ◆ For Fr. Whorton on his deployment, and especially for his family, and for all those families in our community affected by this deployment, that they all remain under God's loving care. (Till he returns)
- ◆ For the strength and courage of the disabled, sick, elderly, and dying
- ◆ For our country leaders to make the right decision for the well being of our country.
- ◆ For guidance to our leaders for the removal of the stain of abortion from our country.
- ◆ All our brave men and women of the world keeping their country free.

Prayers are kept on the list for a month then need to be resubmitted.

Thank you for your prayers.

Thank you for reading our bulletin.

Any suggestions, comments, prayers or articles can be sent to

[bulletin@sjvnm.org](mailto:bulletin@sjvnm.org).

We also like to hear about births, baptisms, marriages or other news about our church members.

<b>Debi Wendt - Realtor</b> <b>Discovery I</b> 263-7095 Cellular 898-4660 Direct mariska564@aol.com	<b>Send clean jokes to <a href="mailto:bulletin@sjvnm.org">bulletin@sjvnm.org</a></b>
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**Curious:** Are we raising responsible people anymore?

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Head Usher.....	Carl E. Beyer
Head Altar Servers .....	Ed Uhrich
Head Lector .....	Peggy Riley
Head EM .....	Pinky Bjornstad
Head CCD .....	Edwinna Herrera
Head Snacker.....	Harlan Harrington
Head Grounds and Interior Cleaning.....	Coz Madrid
Head Welcoming Ministry .....	Loretta Tafuro
Parish Website.....	<a href="http://www.sjvnm.org">www.sjvnm.org</a>
Concerns / Questions (Leave a Message) .....	974-1778
Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals .....	St Thomas Parish - 892-1511

## IN GOD WE TRUST