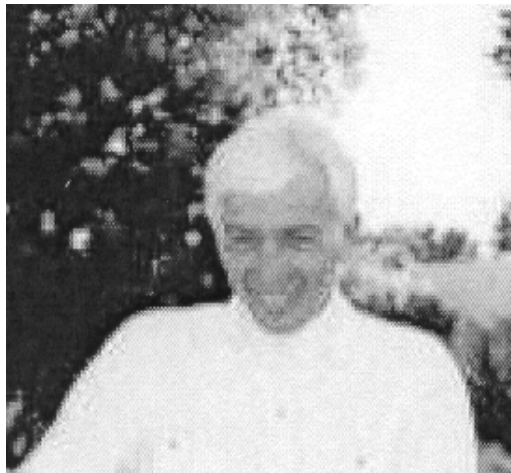


## PASTOR THOMPSON, FR. MURPHY TO EXCHANGE PULPITS

Pastor David Thompson of Westminster Presbyterian Church and Fr James Murphy will again exchange pulpits Sunday, January 16, to mark the annual "Week of Prayer for Christian Unity." Fr. Murphy will speak at the 11:00 am Presbyterian service at Westminster and Pastor Thompson will speak at the 12:30 pm Mass, also at Westminster.



**PASTOR DAVID THOMPSON**

The "Week of Prayer for Christian Unity" is set aside as a time for Christians to focus on the differences between churches and to pray together for that full unity which is Christ's will. Churches are also encouraged to find other occasions throughout the year to pray for Christian unity. For over a year

now, members of the Cathedral parish have been sharing space with members of Westminster Presbyterian Church on Sunday mornings. We want to thank Pastor Thompson and the Presbyterian community for their warmth and hospitality during this time. This sharing will continue until the Cathedral reopens in November of this year.

For information on the mind of the church regarding efforts to promote Christian unity, visit the

Web site for the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of Christian Unity at [http://www.vatican.va/roman\\_Curia/pontifical\\_councils/chrstuni](http://www.vatican.va/roman_Curia/pontifical_councils/chrstuni).

## SANTO NINO NOVENA BEGINS THIS WEEK

In preparation for the annual Santo Nino de Cebu celebration on January 22, a novena Rosary will be held at St Elizabeth's Church every evening beginning on Wednesday, January 12 at 7:00 pm. The novena will culminate in a noon Mass at St Elizabeth's on Saturday, January 22. Every year at this time Filipino families observe this novena commemorating the miraculous preservation of the statue of the Holy Infant from a fire in the City of Cebu in the Philippines during the war

between the Spaniards and the natives. Many miracles are believed to be associated with the statue which is on display in a shrine in Cebu. All are welcome to pray the Rosary during this novena. For information call Dave and Cita Basco (419-7198) or Klint and Lenie Robins (372-3882) or Rod and Yolie Maulina (419-7358).

## SECOND COLLECTION HIGH FOR TSUNAMI VICTIMS

Our second collection for the victims of the Asian earthquake and Tsunami came to \$3,665. That is higher than normal for second collections.

Parishes throughout the Diocese of Sacramento held collections last Sunday for the same cause. Diocesan officials will send the money to Catholic Relief Services, the arm of

the United States Catholic Bishops handling disasters in the world. That agency in turn will channel the money to victims of the Asian tragedy. Private contributions to the victims of the earthquake and Tsunami have already passed \$200 million and continue to rise.

*THE CHURCH IN THE MODERN WORLD***LOCAL & UNIVERSAL CHURCH***Reverend George Dyer, S.T.D.*

When first-century Christians used the word "church," they almost always meant the local Christian community, whether at Rome, Corinth, or Jerusalem. These first "churches" were founded by the Apostles and their coworkers, all of them Jews who were followers of Jesus. Not surprisingly they shaped their communities along the lines of the synagogue with superintendents, elders, and servants (the later translation would be "bishops, priests and deacons").

There seems to have been no institutional link among these separate communities; that is, there was no structure of governance that bound them together. But even at this very early time, there was evidence that Rome held a special position. In 90 AD "The Church at Rome" wrote to admonish "the Church at Corinth." The tone of the letter was that of an elder brother or even a Dutch uncle. In 105 AD, St. Ignatius wrote that Rome was "the most excellent of all the churches."

It seems clear that the church of the first centuries did not have a central administrative institution. The Dominican Edmund Hill has made the excellent point that this lack of a central administration probably saved the church from extinction. Humanly speaking, the systematic persecutions of the third and fourth century would almost surely have wiped out the church, if it were structured as it is today. The fact that the church existed in numberless

local communities made it almost impossible for the Empire to extinguish it.

Matters changed dramatically in the fourth century. The Empire became Christian, and from this point on the church and state became co-terminous. The word "Church" clearly took on the meaning of a universal institution.

The notion of the church as a worldwide, administratively centralized institution is probably the one that comes first to mind to Catholics today. There is even the sense that the local bishops are "branch managers" acting only in the name and with the authority of the Pope. The Second Vatican Council, however, expressly stated that this was not the case (Lumen Gentium, 27).

Clearly, the Church is both local and universal. As we shall see next week, Cardinals Ratzinger and Kasper of the Roman Curia have different ideas of how these two dimensions of the church relate to one another.

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK****MON 1/10/2004**

7:00 am: All Souls

12:00 noon: Jean Runyon, S.I.

**TUES 1/11/2004**

7:00 am: All Souls

12:00 noon: Jane Lippe +

**WED 1/12/2004**

7:00 am: All Souls

12:00 Noon: All Souls

**THURS 1/13/2004**

7:00 am: All Souls

12:00 noon: All Souls

**FRI 1/14/2004**

7:00 am: All Souls

12:00 noon: All Souls

**St. Hilary****THANK YOU**

The St. Vincent de Paul Society of the Cathedral would like to thank you for all your support this year.

Thanks to your generous donations we were able to provide 38 families with meals for the holidays and toys for about 52 children from our parish. We were also able to provide year around service to the downtown homeless consisting of food, transportation and sleeping bags. If you wish to make a donation call the St. Vincent de Paul Society at 447-3780.

**CATHOLIC BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL CLUB**

The next meeting of the Business & Professional Club is on Wednesday, January 12 from 7:00 am to 8:30 am at the Hilton Sacramento Arden West, 2200 Harvard Street (Business 80 at Arden Way). Roy Schoeman, author of "Salvation is from the Jews" will speak on the topic "Journey from Judaism to Catholicism." To reserve your place, please register by calling (916) 930-1144 by Monday, January 10, at 12 noon.