



I am deeply grateful to all of you, full time and part-time Parishioners, Parish Leaders, Volunteers, and Visitors to this beautiful church and place. You have been very generous towards our community by way of sacrificing your precious time, talent, and treasure (like a good steward and disciple of Jesus).

In particular, I would like to thank:

Miguel Torrado and Sergio Orozco for their dedication to the Deacon program and assisting me as Pastoral Associates in the parish;

My Parish Office Staff for organizing paper work/files and setting up a new business office in Gualala; our **Book Keeper** who keeps all our financial records consistent with the Diocesan requirements;

All those that assist in **Parish Communication** through the parish bulletin, the parish website, emails, phone calls and personal communication;

The Chairpersons and members of Councils, Commissions, and Committees along with the volunteers that keep us going with new ideas and recommendations, and provide guidance to me on existing activities;

The Lectors, Music Ministers, Eucharistic Ministers, Servers, Greeters, Collection People, Counters at the weekend Masses; those who clean the churches, and set up the flowers; and all those who maintain very well the grounds along with the facilities at both the churches;

The Good Buy Clothes Volunteers for being part of our Parish Outreach and for helping so many organizations and individuals within the parish and in the community at-large;

The Knights of Columbus for their maintenance of the cemetery and St. Aloysius Church, along with providing a scholarship program, and helping the developmentally disabled, loaning funds to individuals

in need, and for their efforts in arranging celebrations and their active support of fund-raisers;

The Foundation Board for their assistance in paying for some of the expenses of remodeling the rectory at Point Arena, and the setting up of a Grant program for other activities in the Parish, like the Youth Group formation;

And, finally, I would like to thank all those who contributed to the following **New Initiatives and Changes**:

1. Parish Unity: Now we begin to feel, as we ought to, that we all belong to One Parish. We have two churches in the parish, and celebrate Mass every Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday in English, and on the weekends, we celebrate masses in both English and Spanish. A variety of Parish-wide events and celebrations occur throughout the year. Liturgical activities, budgets (income and expenditures), reports, councils, commissions, and committees now operate on a parish-wide basis. Restructuring of the Councils and Commissions was done in May and June of this year. The next step is to develop a pastoral plan that will guide the parish in the years to come.

We are One Parish, and We are All in This Together!

2. “Generations of Faith”: Short sessions were held after the Sunday Hispanic Masses as a time to share and reflect upon certain truths of faith, devotion, and practices in the Church. The sessions were aimed at the education of individuals and families, both children and adults. The program had been very useful and informative during the Lenten Season, and helped in preparing to celebrate Lent and Easter.

Participate in the program of “Generations of Faith”!

3. Youth Group: An initiative has been taken up at Mary Star of the Sea Church to start a youth group. The youth group, consisting of both Spanish and English speaking youth, meet every Friday to



learn to interact well with the other students and the instructors, and to receive the required training and formation in Christian faith. Those attending participate in fun activities and games, with a focus on socialization. The group will be organizing some fund raisers and will become more involved in the liturgical events and parish events. Many of the participants attended a camp with other youth in Santa Rosa, accompanied by their own family members and the instructors. More and more opportunities are to be given to them, especially in the areas of leadership training, faith formation, and involvement in various ministries of the liturgy and the parish. Four members of the youth group accompanied by two adults as chaperones, will be attending the Religious Education Congress at Anaheim, March 22-25, 2012.

Welcome to the Youth Group! Support the Youth Group!

4. Bible Study: The new Formation and Evangelization Commission is very active and engaged in planning and implementing Ongoing Adult Faith Formation Programs. As identified by the recent parish survey, the need for Bible Study has been addressed by setting up Bible study classes. There are currently two groups of eight to nine members participating in the *Little Rock Scripture Study Program* every Wednesday. One group completed the study of the *Introduction to the Bible* last month, while the second continues to study of the *Book of Isaiah*. In January 2012, the groups will continue the parish Bible Study Program by selecting other books in the Bible. The people attending this program seem to find it very educational, inspirational, and life-changing. They hope to see an increase in numbers.

All are welcome! Join the Bible Study!

None of the above initiatives and changes would have been possible without the efforts, consultation and participation of so many of our Parishioners

Thank you one and all! Be generous as God is generous!

*Your humble servant and leader in Christ,
Fr. Balaswamy Govindu
Parish Administrator*

St. Aloysius Parish
Appreciation Day
2011



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

A BIG THANK YOU

On Sunday, November 27th, as a part of the Thanksgiving Weekend, I would like to show my appreciation to all the parishioners that volunteer time, talent, and energy in helping St. Aloysius Parish Community to fulfill its mission in the Church and in the world.

The word “thanks” is certainly a million dollar word. As a well-known writer, Johannes A. Gaertner, said, “To speak gratitude is courteous and pleasant, to enact gratitude is generous and noble, but to live gratitude is to touch Heaven.” I believe that being grateful for what and whom we have is a key to happiness. I am always overjoyed for being part of this wonderful, generous, and faith-filled community.