

UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC CENTER
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Now you can support us electronically!

Just sign up for ParishPay by going to www.uccla.org and click on "Support the UCC" located in the left hand menu options.

Upcoming Events Open to Friends of the UCC!

Christmas Eve Mass 12/24, 8 p.m.

Music Ministry Concert 1/22, 2 p.m.

Mass with Cardinal Mahony
2/13, 10:30 a.m.

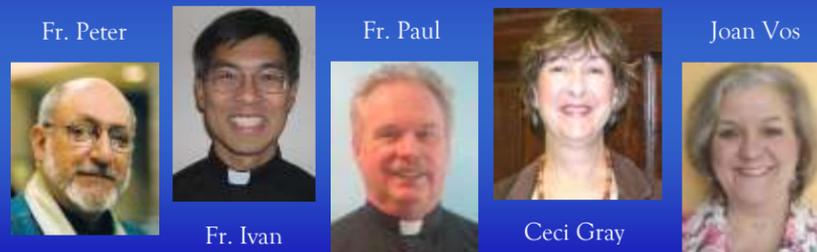
Fr. Dick Sparks, CSP on Catholic
Morality 2/27-3/1

Holy Thursday 4/21, 8 p.m.

Good Friday 4/22, 8 p.m.

Easter Sunday Vigil 4/23, TBA

UCC STAFF



To view our complete Calendar of Events or Photo Gallery, please visit www.uccla.org

Please let us know if you would like to receive future Catholic Bruins electronically, by e-mailing our secretary at staff@uccla.org

Please join us in helping to minister to the Catholic students at UCLA, for "the harvest is plenty but the laborers are few." With your help, this coming academic year will bring even more formation, fellowship, and social justice activities to the Center. By financially supporting the University Catholic Center, your generous donation along with those of other alumni, parents, and friends of the UCC assists us in our efforts to empower the Catholic leaders of tomorrow.



Student Leadership Team

Education & Faith Development

Mary Haong

4th yr, Psychobiology

Shen Heckel

4th yr, Theater

Nick Ross

3rd yr, Mechanical Engineering

Liturgy

Josue Reynaga

2nd yr, Undeclared-Life Sci.

Maddie Cross

3rd yr, MIMG (Genetics)

Community Life

Crystal Lin

3rd yr, Chemical Engineering

Paloma Doreza

3rd yr, English

Melodie Ampuero

3rd yr, Psychology

Social Justice

Marc Lim

4th yr, Bio. Engineering

Alex Rudolf-Dib

2nd yr, English & French

Outreach

Gabby Lazalde

2nd yr, Biology

Joelle Rodigari

2nd yr, Electrical Engineering

Catholic Bruin

December 2010

Volume 7, Issue 2

From the Director



First, the good news! Nearly 750 students worship with us actively on Sundays. Weekly Student Dinners continue to be well attended.

"Dear Fr. Peter & UCC Staff: Thank you for the guidance and support you provide our son. We know that he wouldn't be attending if he wasn't interested. Please keep up your great efforts, and your spirit of welcome there."

A new "Read, Hear, Live—the Word" Bible study, a vibrant Music Ministry, a "Roaring Twenties" dance, weekly meals for the homeless on Skid Row, an evening on "Immigration Reform & the Election", finals week "Study Hall", and an Alabama mission trip highlight some of our fall activities—100% student-led, with staff supervision. In February, Cardinal Mahony will celebrate Sunday Mass with us and moral theologian Fr. Dick Sparks will speak on sexuality and more.

Now my "pitch!" One of the tasks I find most daunting is asking for money! Appealing to folks suffering through a terrible economic stretch is made easier, however, because I know that we have an energetic campus ministry program here at UCLA—with a terrific staff to boot! The photos in this issue will testify to the UCC's continuing vibrancy.

We certainly encourage financial support from our current students. On our 2nd Sunday each fall, our Student Leaders make an appeal to their peers, alerting them to the financial needs of our Center. This starts the stewardship process, but we cannot expect students to fully fund our ministry.

That's the reason we count on your prayers and active participation as a parent, alum, or friend, and depend on your financial support to enable this ministry. While we cherish more generous gifts, we hope more of you will respond. If each friend of the UCC gave \$25 this holiday season, we'd collect more than enough to pay for the current maintenance needs of our building (e.g., carpet & roof gutter cleaning; repairs to sound system, washer & stove, plumbing & lighting, heating & air conditioning; waterproofing renewal), to plan for a looming roof repair, and to help fund an ever-expanding ministry program.



SDVP at Vincentian Family Day

To make this process easier, consider using ParishPay, our credit card donation plan. Just go to www.uccla.org and click on "Support the UCC" located in the left-hand menu options.

Thank you once again for being a crucial part of our extended UCC family. With the Holy Spirit's guidance, let's together make this coming year of stewardship our best ever!

May our Gracious God continue to bless you this Christmas—
Fr. Peter Abdella, CSP

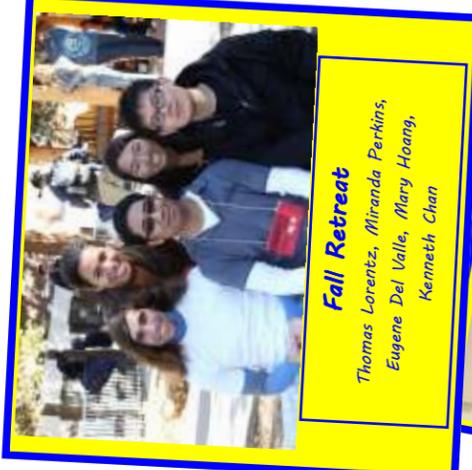
UCC Events This Quarter

- Student Leadership Team (SLT)**
- Fall SLT Orientation & Planning Retreat
- UCC Activities Fair
- Welcome Night Luau
- UCC Registration
- Finals Study Nights
- Liturgy Committee**
- Táizé Prayer (2 times per quarter)
- Liturgical Ministers Training
- Liturgy Talk by Kathy Lindell
- Music Ministry Weekly Rehearsal
- Advent Planning & Advent Bookmarks
- Prayers of the Faithful Meetings
- Bread Baking for Sunday Mass
- Education and Faith Development**
- RCIA (4 catechumens & 4 candidates)
- Bible Study—Read, Hear, Live the Word
- Catholicism WOW on Gay Marriage
- Kyrie -Praise and Worship
- Outreach**
- UCC presence on Bruin Walk
- UCC T-Shirt days at UCLA
- UCLA Hospital Blood Drive
- Interfaith Music & Poetry Night
- Ads in UCLA's *Daily Bruin* Newspaper
- Social Justice**
- Elections & Immigration Reform Evening
- Civil Rights Mission Trip to Alabama
- Audiences Unlimited fundraiser
- Silent Auction & Bake Sales fundraiser
- SVP's Toy and Toiletries Drive
- SVDP's Pizza Drive
- SVDP's Weekly Skid Row Service
- Community Life**
- Weekly Student Dinners
- Weekly Walk-back Brunch
- Welcome Back Dance: *The Roaring 20s*
- Harry Potter Movie Premiere
- Thanksgiving Potluck
- Weekly Cornerstone LGBT Meetings
- Grad Group helping at Shriner's Hospital
- Retreats**
- Freshman/Transfer Student Retreat
- Fall Weekend Retreat: *GodQuest*
- Other**
- UCC Alumni Potluck
- UCC Beautification
- Welcoming 3 new staff members: Joan Vos, Fr. Paul Rospond, CSP, & Jessica Salgado

Fall Quarter in Rewind!



Welcome Back Dance
Maddie Gross & Vanessa Carlos



Fall Retreat
Thomas Lorentz, Miranda Perkins, Eugene Del Valle, Mary Hoang, Kenneth Chan



This year's Student Leader Team



Liturgical Minister Training Newly Trained Lectors



This Fall's Retreat!



Freshman/Transfer Student Retreat: "The Adventure Begins"



Music Ministry

Exciting Beginnings for a New Year....

Each year brings new opportunities, challenges, and blessings. We are blessed to have 12 students step forward to assist in the leadership of the UCC. These Student Leaders are listed on this newsletter's front cover. They, along with the UCC Staff, started in mid-September with a retreat to strategize the year. This year, we want to emphasize the UCC as a place of safety, refuge, and community. The Student Leaders want the UCC to be a place to understand and to be understood, as students wrestle with developing a mature faith and discovering their mission in life.

To enliven this vision, we assign the student leaders to one of five different student committees. The **Community Life Student Leaders (Crystal, Melodie, & Paloma)** hope to counter-balance the competitiveness and individualism of UCLA with teamwork and fun. They plan to bring UCC members together through activities like Student Dinners, cultural trips in LA, "Walk-back brunch" after Sunday Mass, retreats, etc. The **Social Justice Student Leaders (Alex & Marc)** want to create greater awareness of the needs of the world and to help others be more passionate about serving. They plan small activities for folks who never participate and big events for those looking for a challenge. Their first big project is an Alabama mission trip. The **Education & Faith Development Student Leaders (Mary, Nick, & Shen)** realize that UCLA students, already inundated with learning, do not want another class. Hence, they adopted the theme: "This Ain't Yo Mama's Bible Study." And so these Student Leaders have created a revised Bible Study called, "Read, Hear, Live." One week, students come to explore and discuss the upcoming Bible readings which they will hear on Sunday. The following week, they meet to live out what they heard. The **Liturgy Student Leaders (Josue & Maddie)** want to help our community go beyond the motions of Mass, to truly celebrate and be present to God. Or to quote one student, to "reveal that ritual is wonderful." They want to keep the Story alive so folks are challenged, comforted, and energized. The **Outreach Student Leaders (Gabby & Joelle)** recognize that many students do not know about the UCC. They want to fix this through word of mouth and social networking (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, etc.). We now have "UCC T-shirt Days" on campus when members wear their UCC t-shirts to help others recognize our presence at UCLA and help UCC members connect with each other.

We are excited about the great things God is doing through the UCC. Please know that your prayers and financial help make you part of this grand enterprise. We are proud to have you as a member of our UCC extended family.

Fr. Ivan Tou, CSP

Godquest: Exploring the Avenues & Faces of Faith

On November 12-14, forty-four adventurous Bruins embarked upon their *Godquest* at Pinecrest Christian Conference Center in the San Bernardino Mountains near Lake Arrowhead. The mission for this year's **Fall Retreat 2010** was to provide retreatants the opportunity to embrace their faith journeys, recognize the encouraging moments along the way, and see faith development as a dynamic transformation. Under the guidance of **Fr. Peter**, the retreat team, **Alyssa Ferraro** (2nd yr), **Amanda Freitas** (3rd yr), **Marie De Austria** (3rd yr), **Samantha Filicetto** (3rd yr), **Joaquin Galarza** (4th yr), **Josef Leveratto** (4th yr), **Katie Lorentz** (4th yr), **Eugene Del Valle** (PhD Student), reflected upon the current needs of students today and the gifts that

retreat experience. Initially I hesitated when I was asked to join the team because I felt that as a grad student my experiences would be too distant or would not connect with any of the retreatants. However, retrospectively, I can wholeheartedly say that I am grateful I accepted Fr. Peter's offer.

I would definitely say "yes" again if given another opportunity to lead a retreat. My retreat teammates, Fr. Peter, and especially a good number of retreatants encouraged me to share and open up my experience of faith. Even though I had lingering questions and issues to deal with during the retreat process, I returned from the *Godquest* feeling renewed and reinvigorated.

I truly believe that my experience on this Fall Retreat as a participant and retreat leader will help me in any future

challenges presented to me in my life. For that I will always truly be grateful to everyone who experienced the *Godquest* with me!

—Eugene Del Valle
(PhD Student - Civil & Env. Eng.'12)



Fall Retreat Team 2010

(Left to right)
Eugene Del Valle, Amanda Freitas, Josef Leveratto, Marie De Austria, Samantha Filicetto, Katie Lorentz, Joaquin Galarza, Alyssa Ferraro, & Fr. Peter Abdella, CSP