



# ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH



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

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## About St. Thomas More

**Pastor** *Fr. Chuck Kelly*

**Deacons** *Mike Mangan, Gary Zellmer, Ray Helgeson  
Tom O'Connell*

**Plant Manager** *Greg Kidder*

**Office Manager** *Maresa Kelly*

**Religious Education** *Sandra Rodriguez*

*St. Thomas More Catholic Church*

*767 Elliott Rd. Paradise, CA 95969*

*Office Hrs: Mon. - Thurs. 9a-2p (Closed Friday)*

**CONFESSION:** *Tuesday 5p to 545p*

*Wednesday & Thursday 8A to 825A*

*Friday 8A to 825A and 430p to 545p*

## Mass Times

Sunday 1030A

Domingo Misa en español 1230p

Tuesday 830A

Wednesday, Thurs., & Friday 830A

## Sunday Readings

**1st Reading** *Genesis 12:1-4a*

**Psalm** *33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22*

*Lord, let your mercy be on us as we place our trust in you.*

*Señor, ten misericordia de nosotros.*

**2nd Reading** *2 Timothy 1:8b-10*

**Gospel** *Matthew 17:1-9*

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup>

<i>Sunday; March 1</i>	<i>Earl Whatcott † David Brown</i>	<i>1030A</i>
<i>Domingo; 1 de marzo</i>	<i>Adilene Rivera (Cumpleaños) Celso Verde (salúd)</i>	<i>1230P español</i>
<i>Tues.; March 3</i>	<i>David Brown Modesta Maldonado †</i>	<b>830A</b>
<i>Wed.; March 4</i>	<i>Alice Low † Terry Mathews</i>	<i>830A</i>
<i>Thurs.; March 5</i>	<i>Amber Coii Marie Van Pelt † Victor Ting To †</i>	<i>830A</i>
<i>Friday; March 6</i>	<i>Bob Smith Familia Torres – Rodriguez</i>	<i>830A</i>

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR

*Rod Montgomery  
Steve Neeley  
Ed Jimenez  
Mary Anne Durant  
Rick Sillman  
Andrea Inzunza  
Kimberly Laird  
Leo Benedetti  
Kim Avoy Helgeson  
Gloria Klinger  
Bryant Smith*

*Samia Zumout  
Greg DeCristofaro  
Carrie Sonsteng  
Art Sanchez  
Santiago Ávila  
Joe DiDuca  
Carlos Torres  
Bernhard Family  
Tony & Francene Packett*

*Tim Steffen  
Elaine Little  
Ron Keyes  
Theresa Durant  
Sam Kempner  
Richard Carmack  
Dolores Costello  
Barbara Braun  
Rosemary Peterson*

## MARCH INTENTIONS OF POPE LEO XIV

**For disarmament and peace**

*Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.*

## INTENCIONES DE MARZO DEL PAPA LEÓN XIV

**Por el desarme y la paz**

*Oremos para que las naciones avancen hacia un desarme efectivo, en particular el desarme nuclear, y para que los líderes mundiales elijan el camino del diálogo y la diplomacia en lugar de la violencia.*

### This Week's Readings

#### SECOND WEEK OF LENT

#### Monday; March 2<sup>nd</sup>

1st Reading: Daniel 9:4b-10

Psalm 79:8, 9, 11 and 13

*Lord, do not deal with us according to our sins.*

Gospel: Luke 6:36-38

#### Tuesday; March 3<sup>rd</sup>

1st Reading: Isaiah 1:10, 16-20

Psalm 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23

*To the upright I will show the saving power of God.*

Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12

#### Wednesday; March 4<sup>th</sup>

1st Reading: Jeremiah 18:18-20

Psalm 31:5-6, 14, 15-16

*Save me, O Lord, in your kindness.*

Gospel: Matthew 20:17-28

#### Thursday; March 6<sup>th</sup>

1st Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-10

Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6

*Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.*

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

#### Friday; March 7<sup>th</sup>

1st Reading: Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a

Psalm 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21

*Remember the marvels the Lord has done.*

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46

#### Saturday; March 8<sup>th</sup>

1st Reading: Micah 7:14-15, 18-20

Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12

*The Lord is kind and merciful.*

Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

#### Sunday; March 8<sup>th</sup>

##### Third Sunday of Lent

1st Reading: Exodus 17:3-7

Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9

*If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.*

2nd Reading: Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

Gospel: John 4:5-42

### MEDITATION OF THE DAY

#### The Beauty of His Divinity



**He took with him to a high mountain Peter, James, and John—Peter the Rock; James destined to be the first apostle-martyr; and John the visionary of the future glory of the Apocalypse.** These three were present when he raised

from the dead the daughter of Jairus. All three needed to learn the lesson of the cross and to rectify their false conceptions of the Messiah. Peter had vehemently protested against the cross, while James and John had been throne-seekers. All three would later on sleep in the Garden of Gethsemane during his agony. To believe in his Calvary, they must see the glory that shone beyond the scandal of the cross.

**On the mountaintop, after praying, he became transfigured before them** as the glory of his divinity flashed through the threads of his earthly raiment. It was not so much a light that was shining from without as the beauty of the Godhead that shone from within. It was not the full manifestation of divinity which no man of earth could see; nor was his body glorified, for he had not risen from the dead, but it possessed a quality of glory....

**The wonder was not this momentary radiance around him; it was rather that** at all other times it was repressed. As Moses, after communing with God, put a veil over his face to hide it from the people of Israel, so Christ had veiled his glory in humanity. But for this brief moment, he turned it aside so that men might see it; the outgoing of these rays was the transitory proclamation to every human eye of the Son of Righteousness. As the cross came nearer, his glory became greater. — VENERABLE FULTON J. SHEEN

Archbishop Sheen († 1979) was a great American preacher and author of numerous books. / From *Life of Christ*. © 1990 by Fulton J. Sheen, Ph.D., D.D.

Excerpt from *Magnificat Magazine, Meditation of the Day, March 1, 2026*

### HOMILY NOTES

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**¡Bienvenidos a marzo! Este mes está dedicado a San José. Esta rica tradición nos invita a reflexionar sobre su fe, humildad, obediencia y amor desinteresado. San José es un modelo excepcional para nosotros en nuestro camino espiritual.**

José, ya que su festividad principal se celebra el 19 de marzo, una fiesta para honrar y conmemorar su papel como esposo de María y padre adoptivo de Jesucristo. Esta festividad suele coincidir con la Cuaresma y brinda la oportunidad de reflexionar y abrazar el sacrificio y el sufrimiento de San José, quien vivió cada momento según la voluntad de Dios y anticipó la inevitable pasión de su amado Hijo adoptivo.

Este mes, la Iglesia anima a los creyentes a reflexionar sobre las virtudes de San José, buscar su intercesión y profundizar en su importancia en la historia de la salvación.



**Welcome to March! This month is dedicated to St. Joseph. This rich tradition invites us to reflect on his faith, humility, obedience, and selfless love. St. Joseph is an exceptional model for us in navigating our spiritual journey.**

March is the month chosen for dedication to St. Joseph because the principal Feast of Saint Joseph is celebrated on March 19 – a feast to honor and commemorate his role as the husband of Mary and the foster father of Jesus Christ. This feast usually

falls during the season of Lent and provides an opportunity to consider and embrace the sacrifice and suffering of Saint Joseph as he lived each moment in God's will and anticipated the inevitable passion of his beloved foster Son.

This month the Church encourages believers to reflect on St. Joseph's virtues, seek his intercession, and deepen their understanding of his significance in salvation history.

## SAN JOSÉ – SANTO PATRÓN DE LA IGLESIA CATÓLICA

*El Beato Papa Pío IX declaró a San José Patrón de la Iglesia Católica en 1871. Entre otros brillantes elogios a San José, el Beato Papa declaró:*

*[Dios] le confió [a San José] sus mayores tesoros. Lo destinó a desposarse con la Inmaculada Virgen María, de quien nació, por obra del Espíritu Santo, nuestro Salvador, Jesucristo... San José no solo vio al Redentor, largamente deseado por reyes y profetas, sino que conversó con él y lo abrazó con afecto paternal. Con suma devoción, proveyó de alimento a Aquel a quien los fieles recibirían como el Pan Celestial de vida eterna. «Por esta sublime dignidad que Dios se complació en conferir a tan gran siervo, la Iglesia, además de implorar la protección de San José en toda necesidad, siempre lo ha honrado y alabado como el segundo después de la Virgen Madre de Dios, su esposa».*

La próxima semana: 6 maneras de crecer en la devoción a San José.

## ST. JOSEPH – PATRON SAINT OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

*Blessed Pope Pius IX declared Saint Joseph the Patron of the Catholic Church in 1871. Among other shining accolades of Saint Joseph, the Blessed Pope stated,*

*“[God] gave [Saint Joseph] charge of His greatest treasures. He destined him to espouse the Immaculate Virgin Mary of whom was born, by the operation of the Holy Spirit, our Savior, Jesus Christ . . . Saint Joseph not only saw the Redeemer, long desired of kings and prophets, he conversed with Him and embraced Him with paternal affection. With the utmost devotion, he provided food for Him Whom the faithful were to receive as the Heavenly Bread of eternal life. “On account of this sublime dignity which God was pleased to confer on so great a servant, the Church, besides imploring Saint Joseph’s protection in every need, has always honored and praised him as second only to the Virgin Mother of God, His spouse.”*

Next week: 6 Ways to Grow in Devotion to Saint Joseph.



**MEN'S MINISTRY NEW TIME!**  
Friday; March 6 | **930A** | Church Hall Mtg Rm.

**STM Updates Online Giving Platform!** St. Thomas More now offers WeShare, an online giving platform that offers our parishioners a convenient and flexible way to give to STM anytime, from anywhere! WeShare accepts credit cards, bank transfers, pay apps like Apple Pay, even bitcoin! Simply focus your smartphone's camera on the QR code (at left), click the link, and follow the prompts. Easy!



Find WeShare online at [stmparadise.com](http://stmparadise.com). At the top of the Home Page click Online Giving, follow the prompts. Take a pic of the QR code above & keep it in your phone for future giving. Or scan and use right now!

**Ladies Bible Study This Thursday!**  
The Ladies Bible Study is now studying the Gospel of Matthew. Please join us Thursday at 1P in the Parish Hall's small meeting room. All ladies are welcome.  
**Questions? Call Gail Crowley 530-877-8474**  
**Next study session Thursday, March 5 at 1P**



**40 DAYS FOR LIFE UPDATE**

Forty Days for Life has resumed prayer and fasting for an end to abortion effective Ash Wednesday thru Sunday, March 29. Please pray for an end to abortion. To get your 40 Days for Life Prayer Calendar see Kathy DeCristofaro after Mass.

*Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus."*

--Luke 1:30-33

God, we ask you to be with every expectant mother. Give them the courage of Mary to say yes to your divine will, even in the most unexpected circumstances. Help us to notice women in need and embrace every mother facing an unplanned pregnancy. Amen.

**ATTENTION ALL PARISHIONERS!!**  
**Mass Time Change For March:**  
**The Tuesday 6P Mass will move to 830A**  
*This move is only for the month of March and enables Father Chuck to support brother priests at local parishes during Lent.*  
Sorry for the inconvenience. Thanks for understanding.

**March 6 | 6 de marzo**  
**Stations of the Cross | Horario del via Crucis**

- 6P Stations | Horario
- Lenten Soup Supper | Cena de Sopa

**Note/Nota:** Stations of the Cross, in both English & Spanish, will take place simultaneously with each group alternating between the Church and the Family Life Center (aka: the church hall.) El Vía Crucis, tanto en inglés como en español, se llevará a cabo simultáneamente, alternando cada grupo entre la iglesia y el Centro de Vida Familiar (también conocido como el salón.)



**Attention ALL MEN! NEW DATES for Men's Retreat**  
**Listen, Jesus is calling! Have you signed up for The Men's Retreat yet? There's time.**  
**Friday; March 27 to Sunday; March 29.**



The Retreat is getting close but there's still time to register. <https://christtheretreatcenter.org/> or by mail (the address is on the Info Sheet), or call 916-725-4720.

Registration: \$290-Single | \$260-Double  
Ride share available, see Gary | Partial scholarships available just call the Retreat Center  
Pick up a flyer in the narthex for details.

**Questions? Need a ride? See retreat leader Deacon Gary Zellmer after Mass.**

**ALOHA!!! How about 6Days/5Nights in Maui at the Sheraton Maui Resort & Spa?** This St. Vincent de Paul annual fundraiser offers you a chance for two to fly to Maui, a \$400 car rental voucher & \$500 American Express gift card. 2ND Prize is a \$500 VISA gift card! Raffle Tickets are just \$10 each. Purchase yours after Mass.



**ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER & DANCE**  
For  
**CARENET**  
PREGNANCY CENTER OF PARADISE  
**Saturday | March 21**  
6p Social  
630P Dinner

**Corn Beef & Cabbage and Dessert**  
**Dancing | 50/50 Drawing**  
**\$100 Door Prize**  
**Tickets available after Mass**  
\$20 Adult | \$50 Families (Kids under 12)

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