

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH



www.stmparadise.org | 530.877.4501 | Email: office@stmparadise.org

About St. Thomas More

Pastor *Fr. Chuck Kelly*

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

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 6p Bilingual

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday 830A

Sunday Readings

1st Reading *Sirach 27:4-7*

Psalm *Psalm 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16*

Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

¡Qué bueno es darte gracias, Señor!

2nd Reading *1 Corinthians 15:54-58*

Gospel *Luke 6:39-45*

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 2ND

<i>Sunday; March 2</i>	<i>Earl J. Whatcott † Tammy Weaver †</i>	<i>1030A</i>
<i>Domingo; 2 marzo</i>	<i>Adi Rivera (birthday) Lourdes Collazo (salud)</i>	<i>1230P español</i>
<i>Tuesday; March 4</i>	<i>Abel Holguin Chavez †</i>	<i>6P</i>
<i>Wed.; March 5</i>	<i>Gema Real</i>	<i>830A</i>
<i>Thurs.; March 6</i>	<i>Herminio Urena †</i>	<i>830A</i>
<i>Friday; March 7</i>	<i>Pablo Balladares † Jorge Christian Avila Martinez †</i>	<i>830A</i>

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR

*Kimberly Steffen-Parkney
Raul Saavedra
Jose Raul Rivera
Mary Anne Durant*

*Barbara Maldonado
Samia Zumout
Chris Rehmann
Helvia Saavedra*

*Elaine Little
Ron Keyes
Theresa Durant*

Lent
fast • give • pray

ASH WED., is March 5! See insert for Mass times, etc. Bring last year's palm branches & place in basket in the Narthex.

MARCH INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS

For families in crisis

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences

INTENCIONES DE MARZO DEL PAPA FRANCISCO

Para familias en crisis

Oremos para que las familias rotas descubran la cura de sus heridas a través del perdón, redescubriendo los dones de cada uno, incluso en sus diferencias.

This Week's Readings

EIGHTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Monday; March 3rd

1st Reading: Sirach 17:20-24

Psalm 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7

Let the just exult and rejoice in the Lord.

Gospel: Mark 10:17-27

Tuesday; March 4th

1st Reading: Sirach 35:1-12

Psalm 50:5-6, 7-8, 14, 23

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

Gospel: Mark 10:28-31

Wednesday; March 5th ASH WEDNESDAY

1st Reading: Joel 2:12-18

Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17
Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2

Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday; March 6th THURSDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

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

Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.

Gospel: Luke 9:22-25

Friday; March 7th FRIDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

1st Reading: Isaiah 58:1-9a

Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19

A heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn.

Gospel: Matthew 9:14-15

Saturday; March 8th SATURDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

1st Reading: Isaiah 58:9b-14

Psalm 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6

Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth.

Gospel: Luke 5:27-32

MEDITATION OF THE DAY

What Moves Us to Remove Our Beams



Saint Augustine tells us that he found some admirable virtues

among pagans (let us think of Socrates), but that never, absolutely never, did he find a pagan who possessed the virtue of humility.

The reason is that this virtue is possible only on the supernatural plane; it is therefore not accessible to those whose outlook is limited to natural ethics. The humble person dreads to be called humble, and actually suffers when someone praises him for

possessing this elusive virtue. The proud person, on the contrary, loves to hear his "humility" commended and basks in this praise. As long as we compare ourselves to other human creatures—be it for physical, intellectual, or spiritual characteristics—we shall always find someone who is "worse" off than we are...

But humility refrains from making purely human comparisons. This virtue teaches us to place ourselves naked in front of our Creator, the infinitely perfect and Holy One. Such a confrontation must bring us to our knees & force us to acknowledge that we nothing but dust & ashes, as Abraham said when he begged God to spare Sodom and Gomorrah. It is inconceivable that someone should stand in front of the one true God and persist in the illusion that he is "something." All the gifts we possess come from God; by ourselves we are nothing, and would fall back into nothingness if God's hand did not sustain us in existence thru the concursus divinus (divine concurrence).

This confrontation between God and man could be crushing and lead us to metaphysical despair. (Let us recall the cry of Saint Peter, Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man, in Luke 5:8.) But the recognition of our nothingness should go hand in hand with an awareness that God, the infinitely good & merciful God, loves his creatures, these poor beggars that he has knighted by making them to his image and likeness.

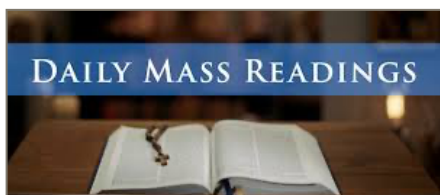
The moment that man perceives both his misery & his greatness, the consciousness that he is loved brings him such overwhelming joy that, appropriately, he prefers to be nothing because the one who loves him & whom he has learned to love is everything. —A LICE VON HILDEBRAND

Alice von Hildebrand († 2022), a philosopher and theologian, was the wife of the philosopher and theologian Dietrich von Hildebrand. / From *The Privilege of Being a Woman*. Copyright ©. 2002 by Alice von Hildebrand. Published by Sapientia Press of Ave Maria University, Ave. Maria, FL.

Excerpt from *Magnificat Magazine, Meditation of the Day, March 2, 2025*

HOMILY NOTES

Three horizontal lines for taking notes, each with a dashed line below it.



¡Bienvenidos a marzo! Debido a la Solemnidad de San José el 19 de marzo, este mes está dedicado a este gran santo, padre adoptivo de Cristo. "Conviene mucho a los cristianos, honrando a la Virgen Madre de Dios, invocar constantemente con profunda piedad y confianza a su castísimo esposo, San José. Tenemos una convicción bien fundada de que tal es el deseo especial de la misma Santísima Virgen". –Papa León XIII



Welcome to March! Due to the Solemnity of St. Joseph on March 19, this month is devoted to this great saint, the foster father of Christ. "It greatly behooves Christians, while honoring the Virgin Mother of God, constantly to invoke with deep piety and confidence her most chaste spouse, St. Joseph. We have a well grounded conviction that such is the special desire of the Blessed Virgin herself." –Pope Leo XIII

3 de 5 atributos de San José que los hombres (y las mujeres) pueden imitar

1. San José era un hombre justo.

Las Escrituras se refieren a José como un hombre "justo" (Mateo 1:19). En otras palabras, era un judío santo y devoto que cumplió los dos mandamientos más importantes: amaba al Señor su Dios con todo su corazón y fuerzas, y amaba a su prójimo como a sí mismo. También era un hombre de oración que conocía los Salmos y la Ley Mosaica por dentro y por fuera y, como todos los judíos devotos, oraba al menos 3 veces al día. Cumplió todo lo que se le requería con un corazón humilde de adoración... entendió tanto el espíritu como la letra de la ley. Como católicos, podemos imitar a San José dándole a Dios el primer lugar en nuestras vidas y amando a nuestro prójimo desinteresadamente. Debemos ser hombres y mujeres de oración que lean las Escrituras y santifiquen cada día con oración.

2. San José amaba a Jesús.

A José se le confió el cuidado de Jesús, el Hijo de Dios. Si bien este es un pensamiento impresionante, sus encuentros con Jesús fueron los de un padre normal. Abrazó a Jesús con amor en el establo de Belén. Le ayudó a aprender a caminar. Cuando Jesús se lastimó (como les sucede a todos los niños), lo consoló. Oraron juntos, hablaron juntos, pasaron largas horas juntos en el taller trabajando con sus manos. San José tenía el profundo amor de un padre por Jesús... Y Jesús amaba a San José, así como nos ama a ti y a mí con toda la ardiente intensidad del Amor Divino. Podemos imitar a San José amando a Jesús fervientemente y entregándole nuestra vida.

3. San José amaba a María

Imagínese estar casado con la mujer perfecta. Se podría decir: "Mi esposa es la Reina del Universo" con cara seria. Debe haber sido el trabajo más humillante jamás realizado a un hombre. José amaba devotamente a María como a su esposa, porque eso es exactamente lo que ella era. Habría muerto para proteger su honor. Cuando ella estaba angustiada, él la consoló. Cuando estaba cansada, se apoyaba en él. Él la escuchó pacientemente y trabajó muchas horas para mantenerla. Era el mejor marido para la mujer más grande que jamás haya existido. Todo hombre (y mujer) debe tener devoción a María, nuestra madre y nuestra Reina. Amémosla, protejamos su honor y entreguémonos a ella como lo hizo San José.

El próximo domingo, mira el boletín de los 2 últimos atributos de San José

FUENTE y Fuente de oración: <https://catholicgentleman.com/2022/03/st-joseph-the-model-of-manhood/>; <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/>

3 of 5 Attributes of St. Joseph that Men (and Women) Can Imitate

1. St. Joseph was a righteous man.

Scripture refers to Joseph as a "righteous" man (Matthew 1:19). In other words, he was a holy & devout Jew who fulfilled the two greatest commandments– he loved the Lord his God with all his heart and strength, and he loved his neighbor as himself. He was also a man of prayer who knew the Psalms and the Mosaic Law inside and out, and, like all devout Jews, he prayed at least 3 times daily. He fulfilled all that was required with him with a humble heart of worship... he understood the spirit as well as the letter of the law. As Catholics, we can imitate St. Joseph by giving God the first place in our lives and by loving our neighbor selflessly. We should be men & women of prayer who read Scripture & sanctify each day with prayer.

2. St. Joseph loved Jesus.

Joseph was entrusted with the care of Jesus, the Son of God. While this is an awe-inspiring thought, his encounters with Jesus were those of a normal father. He held Jesus lovingly in the stable at Bethlehem. He helped him learn to walk. When Jesus hurt himself (as all little boys do), he comforted him. They prayed together, talked together, spent long hours in the shop together working with their hands. St. Joseph had the deep love a father for Jesus... And Jesus loved St. Joseph, just as he loves you & me with all the fiery intensity of Divine Love. We can imitate St. Joseph by loving Jesus fervently and by giving our lives to him.

3. St. Joseph loved Mary.

Imagine being married to the perfect woman. You could say, "My wife is the Queen of the Universe" with a straight face. It must have been the most humbling job ever given to a man. Joseph loved Mary devotedly as his wife– because that's exactly what she was. He would have died to protect her honor. When she was distraught, he comforted her. When she was tired, she leaned on him. He patiently listened to her & worked long hours to provide for her. He was the best husband to the greatest woman who ever lived. Every man (and women) should have a devotion to Mary – our mother & our Queen. Let's love her, protect her honor, and give ourselves to her like St. Joseph did.

[Next Sunday, watch the bulletin for the final 2 attributes of St. Joseph](#)

Sources: <https://catholicgentleman.com/2022/03/st-joseph-the-model-of-manhood/>; <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/view.cfm?id=755>



CAN YOU HELP K^{OC} COLLECT CANS FOR LENT?

Please help the Knights of Columbus collect canned foods during Lent beginning Ash Wednesday thru Easter Sunday. All donations go to the 1ST Baptist Church Food Pantry which STM supports thru our Table of Plenty donations. Questions? Contact Greg DeCristofaro by email GREGDEC@att.net or (530) 873-4132H (530) 588-3790C.



The Funeral Mass for Bill Bechtold, husband of Pam, will be held Thursday, March 6 at 10A.

A Reception will follow in the STM Hall. Please keep Pam & the Bechtold family in your prayers.

The Women of STM will meet Saturday; March 15 @ 10A in the Hall (the side room). All women of the parish are invited!

Secular Franciscans **GAMES DAY! Sat., March 8** Tickets on sale NOW!

Food

PRIZES Silent AUCTION



Ladies! Join us Thurs., March 13 for the C.O.N.T.R.O.L. Program
NOTE NEW START DATE MARCH 13!

This is a seven-week structured course designed specifically for Catholic women to help improve life management skills by addressing the unique challenges women often face using prayer, scripture, and virtues

Your seven-week Lenten journey begins Thursday, March 13 at 930A to 11A, and continues March 20, 27 & April 3, 10, 17, & 24. We'll meet in the small side room of the Hall. Snacks and coffee will be provided. Cost is \$20.00 for supplies.

Questions and/or registration please contact Donna Helgeson at (530) 282-2132 or by email at dhelg66@gmail.com.

Prayer Blanket/ Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Blanket or Prayer Shawl Ministry creates small lap blankets that are sewn, knitted, or crocheted by group members and prayed over by the maker during construction. Once completed, they are then blessed by the priest or a deacon before being given away.

These prayer blankets/shawls are meant to bring comfort, a sense of peace, and love to the recipient, and to let them know we are praying for them. They are given to adults or children with emotional or physical illness, living with a chronic condition, in treatment for a life-threatening illness, experiencing a crisis such as loss of a loved one, loss of job, or relationship crisis.

Starting Friday, March 7th, this Ministry will meet in the small side hall; monthly, on the 1st & 3rd Fridays, 9:30a to 3p. Please join us.

Donations of sewing materials, batting or notions is deeply appreciated.

Questions? Contact Donna Helgeson 530.282.2132 or dhelg66@gmail.com



Susie Aldrid received a quilt from the Shawl Ministry as a sign of love & connection to our Church



The Secular Franciscans will host their annual **G.A.M.E.S.D.A.Y.**

Saturday, March 8, 11A to 3P. This family fun event is a key fundraiser for the Franciscans because proceeds raised go to St. Vincent de Paul and this, in turn, enables SVdP to continue their critical work helping people here on the Ridge. Please support the Secular Franciscans by buying your Games Day ticket after Mass today.

How about 8Days/7Nights in Maui? The St. Vincent de Paul annual fundraiser offers a chance for two to fly to Maui + car rental & \$500 cash up to \$1,000 for two. Tickets are just \$10 each. Aloha!

NEW CLAIRVAUX WINE FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT STM NOW THRU APRIL 18

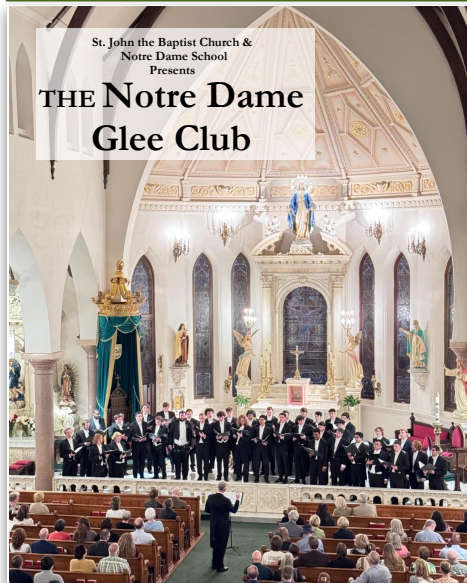
Purchase wine from the New Clairvaux Winery during their Grace of Giving campaign thru April 18 and New Clairvaux will contribute 20% of the purchase to STM! How? Simply choose option A or B below:

- A. Go to <https://newclairvauxvineyard.square.site> to purchase the wine of your choice. (Or use this QR code)
- NOTE: If you will pick up your wine at New Clairvaux enter the code **FREESHIP** to avoid shipping costs.
- B. Or visit the New Clairvaux Vineyard daily 11A to 5P for a wine tasting, choose your wine & purchase using the website above or the QR code, then go to the wine room to pick up your wine.



All wines must be purchased on the website above to benefit STM. This promotion is good for wine purchases thru April 18, 2025.

Address for New Clairvaux Winery & Tasting Room, 26240 7th St., Vina, CA. 96092 phone: 530.839.2200 Questions? See Jim Collins after Mass



St. John the Baptist Church & Notre Dame School Presents
THE Notre Dame Glee Club



March 12, 2025
St. John's Church
416 Chestnut St Chico, CA
7:30pm

Classical Choral Music. Folk Songs
Spirituals Songs of Notre Dame

Tickets Available Online and at Notre Dame School



<https://ndschico.ticketspice.com/university-of-notre-dame-glee-club>

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME
GLEE CLUB
EST. 1915