



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*

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 6P

Wed., Thursday, Friday 830A

Sunday Readings

1st Reading Acts 6:1-7

Psalm 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19

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

El Señor cuida de aquellos que lo temen. Aleluva.

2nd Reading 1 Peter 2:4-9

Gospel John 14:1-12

MASS INTENTIONS FOR EASTER WEEK OF MAY 3RD

<i>Sunday; May 3</i>	<i>Josefina Bird de Saavedra † Lt. Col. James Fabey †</i>	<i>1030A</i>
<i>Domingo; 3 de mayo</i>	<i>Jose Martinez y Aurora Rico † Celia Elba Topete †</i>	<i>1230P español</i>
<i>Tues.; May 5</i>	<i>Sam Kempner † Larry Campbell †</i>	<i>6P</i>
<i>Wed.; May 6</i>	<i>Antipaz Balladares † Ken Campbell †</i>	<i>830A</i>
<i>Thurs.; May 7</i>	<i>Carol Zellmer † Stacey Crook</i>	<i>830A</i>
<i>Friday; May 8</i>	<i>Miguel Saavedra † Jim McManus †</i>	<i>830A</i>

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR

*Rod Montgomery
Bernhard Family
Ed Jimenez
Mary Anne Durant
Rick Sillman
Andrea Inzunza
Kimberly Laird
Leo Benedetti
Kim Avoy Helgeson
Antonio Longuera*

*Samia Zumout
Greg DeCristofaro
Carrie Sonsteng
Art Sanchez
Santiago Ávila
Carlos Torres
Tony & Francene Packett
Rick Hodson
Patricia Morteson*

*Bryant Smith
Ron Keyes
Theresa Durant
Mary Neeley.
Dolores Costello
Rosemary Peterson
Shirley Richards
David Brown
Gloria Klinger*

MAY INTENTIONS OF POPE LEO XIV

That everyone might have food

Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food and ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

INTENCIONES DE MAYO DEL PAPA LEÓN XIV

Para que todos tengan alimento

Oremos para que todos —desde los grandes productores hasta los pequeños consumidores— se comprometan a evitar el desperdicio de alimentos y a asegurar que todos tengan acceso

This Week's Readings

THE 5TH WEEK OF EASTER

Monday; May 4th

1st Reading: Acts 14:5-18

Psalm 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16

Not to us, O Lord, but to your name give the glory.

Gospel: John 14:21-26

Tuesday; May 5th

1st Reading: Acts 14:19-28

Psalm 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21

Your friends make known, O Lord, the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

Gospel: John 14:27-31a

Wednesday; May 6th

1st Reading: Acts 15:1-6

Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Gospel: John 15:1-8

Thursday; May 7th

1st Reading: Acts 15:7-21

Psalm 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10

Proclaim God's marvelous deeds to all the nations.

Gospel: John 15:9-11

Friday; May 8th

1st Reading: Acts 15:22-31

Psalm 57:8-9, 10 and 12

I will give you thanks among the peoples, O Lord.

Gospel: John 15:12-17

Saturday; May 9th

1st Reading: Acts 16:1-10

Psalm 100:1b-2, 3, 5

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Gospel: John 15:18-21

Sunday; May 10th

Sixth Sunday of Easter

1st Reading: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

Psalm 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 3:15-18

Gospel: John 14:15-21



MEDITATION OF THE DAY

On the Way to the Father's House



I am prepared to give my life here on earth for God

whenever and wherever he demands it of me. May he be a merciful judge of my immortal soul through the redemption won for us by his Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. With my last breath I thank God from the bottom of my heart for all the gifts and goodness which I have received throughout my life from his fatherly hand, particularly for the inestimable gift of Catholic parents and a Catholic home, the right to be called a child of God, and

the grace of my priestly vocation.

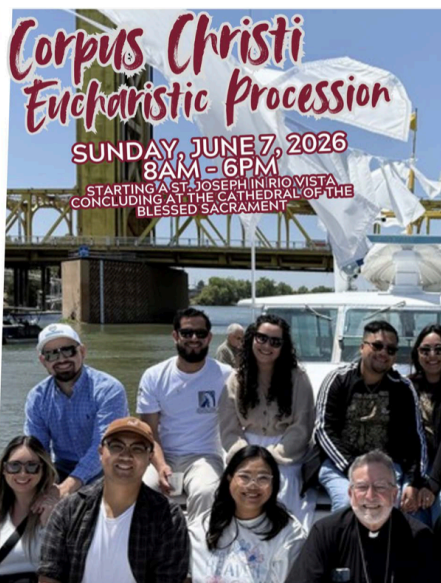
It was my greatest happiness on earth to be a Christian and a priest—and my greatest sorrow to have failed so often out of human weakness. May God have mercy upon this miserable sinner. I trust in his mercy and in the promises of Christ and long with all my heart to enter his heavenly kingdom. This is my fervent hope and my humble prayer. I beg all those who in this life have in any way suffered injustice or pain at my hands to forgive me, as I forgive with all my heart every offense and humiliation committed against me!...

There are so many to whom I owe a debt of gratitude.. I was never rich enough to repay them here on earth. May God allow me to help them in eternity – I should repay them in good measure. I give my blessing in our Lord to all those to whom I was bound in this life by the ties of blood, of suffering, of work, and of religion.

If they saw anything good in me, then I beg them to thank God with me; if they saw only human frailty, then may their strength atone for my weakness so that we may all rejoice together in the fulfillment of the promises of our Lord Jesus Christ to whom, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, be all praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.— BLESSED KARL LAMPERT

Blessed Karl Lampert († 1944), an Austrian priest and vicar general of the Diocese of Innsbruck, was killed by the Nazis in the Dachau concentration camp. These words from his diary are quoted by Father John Lenz in his account of the experience of priests in Dachau. / From *Christ in Dachau*; or *Christ Victorious: Experiences in a concentration camp* by Father John Lenz, tr. Barbara Waldstein. © 1960, Roman Catholic Books, Fort Collins, CO.

Excerpt from *Magnificat Magazine, Meditation of the Day, May 3, 2026*



Camp ReCreation: Nurses Needed!

Are you a registered nurse with a flexible schedule? Retired nurse? Or school nurse off for the summer? Camp ReCreation, a program designed for individuals with disabilities, needs camp nurses to volunteer at our Diocesan sleep-away camp June 6 to 20. If you are a nurse licensed in CA (RN or LVN) and would like to help, contact our camp office bellocamprecreation@gmail.com or visit our website www.camprecreation.org and send an email via our portal. Thanks for your interest!

Mayo es el mes dedicado a la Santísima Virgen María, Madre de Dios, lo cual nos brinda la oportunidad de celebrar nuestro amor y reverencia hacia la Madre Bendita mediante festividades, procesiones y cantos. Un muy querido himno mariano se refiere a Nuestra Señora como la «Reina de Mayo».

La Iglesia primitiva celebraba una importante festividad mariana a mediados de mayo, muy probablemente como respuesta a los festivales paganos de la fertilidad designados para este mes. Con el paso del tiempo, los fieles llegaron a considerar que el mes de mayo pertenecía a Nuestra Señora. Sin embargo, la dedicación formal de mayo a María tuvo lugar en el siglo XVIII. El padre Latomia, jesuita del Colegio Romano de la Compañía de Jesús, la inició con el fin de infundir un espíritu de santidad en el colegio, como respuesta a la infidelidad y la inmoralidad que imperaban entre los estudiantes de aquella época. Esta devoción se extendió rápidamente a otros colegios e iglesias católicas, y varios papas la adoptaron y fomentaron en toda la Iglesia.

PRINCIPALES FESTIVIDADES DE MAYO

El mes de mayo está repleto de celebraciones litúrgicas. Algunas de las festividades destacadas de mayo incluyen:

- La Coronación de Mayo se celebra tradicionalmente el 1 de mayo, aunque puede tener lugar cualquier día del mes. En ella, se corona una imagen de la Santísima Virgen con una guirnalda –o corona de flores–, honrando así a María como «Reina de Mayo».
- La festividad de San José Obrero, que se celebra el 1 de mayo, rinde homenaje al esposo de María y padre adoptivo de Jesús.
- La Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Fátima, el 13 de mayo, celebra las apariciones marianas ocurridas en Fátima, Portugal, en 1917, ante tres jóvenes pastorcitos.
- La Ascensión del Señor celebra la ascensión corporal de Jesucristo al Cielo, 40 días después de la Pascua. Este año, la Ascensión se celebrará aquí en STM el jueves 14 de mayo, durante la Misa de las 8:30 a. m.
- La fiesta de María Auxiliadora, el 24 de mayo, reviste una especial importancia para la Orden Salesiana y su fundador, San Juan Bosco.
- La Visitación de la Santísima Virgen María, el 31 de mayo, destaca el gozoso encuentro entre María –que lleva en su seno al Niño Jesús– y su prima Isabel, madre expectante de San Juan Bautista.



May is the month dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, the mother of God, which presents the opportunity to celebrate our love and reverence for the Blessed Mother through feasts, processions, and song. One well-loved Marian hymn refers to Our Lady as “Queen of the May.”

The early Church celebrated a major Marian feast day in the middle of May, most likely in response to the pagan festivals of fertility designated for this month. Over time, May was held by the faithful to belong to Our Lady. But the formal dedication of May to Mary came about in the 18th century. Father Latomia, a Jesuit in the Roman College of the Society of Jesus, initiated it to bring a spirit of holiness to the college in response to infidelity and immorality among the students at the time. The devotion spread quickly to other Catholic colleges and churches, and several popes adopted and encouraged it throughout the entire Church.

KEY FEAST DAYS IN MAY

May is full of liturgical celebrations. Some of the notable feast days in May include:

- May Crowning is traditionally known to take place on May 1st but can be celebrated any day of the month. A statue of the Blessed Virgin is crowned with a garland, or crown of flowers, honoring Mary as “Queen of the May.”
- St. Joseph the Worker, on May 1st, celebrates the husband of Mary and foster father of Jesus.
- The Feast of Our Lady of Fatima, on May 13, celebrates the Marian apparitions in Fatima, Portugal in 1917 to three young shepherd children.
- The Ascension of the Lord celebrates the bodily ascension of Jesus Christ into Heaven 40 days after Easter. This year, the Ascension will be celebrated here at STM on Thurs., May 14 at the 830A Mass.
- The Feast of Mary, Help of Christians, on May 24, holds special significance for the Salesian Order and its founder, St. John Bosco.
- The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, on May 31, highlights the joyous encounter between Mary, carrying the Christ Child, and Her cousin Elizabeth, the expectant mother of St. John the Baptist.

Source: <https://covenantcatholic.org/devotion-of-the-month/may-dedicated-to-the-blessed-virgin-mary/>

Biberones: Próximamente
¡Los bebés y los padres los necesitan! La campaña de los biberones de CareNet llega este mes. Los biberones estarán disponibles para ser recogidos en el Nártex. Llénalos con tus monedas sueltas, billetes y cheques. Devuélvelos a St. Thomas More en cualquier momento hasta el Día del Padre, el domingo 21 de junio. ¿Tienes preguntas? Consulta a Kathy DeCristofaro después de la Misa.



Baby Bottles Coming Soon
Babies and parents need you! The CareNet baby bottle campaign is coming this month. Bottles will be available for pick up in the Narthex. Fill them with loose your change, bills, and checks. Return to St. Thomas More anytime up until Father's Day, Sunday, June 21. Questions? See Kathy DeCristofaro after Mass.





ADORATION
Friday, May 8 | Follows 8:30A Mass
Adoration ends at 6P



MEN'S MINISTRY
Friday, May 8 | **930A** | Church Hall Mtg Rm.

USCCB to Celebrate the Declaration of Independence Signing

On July 4, 2026, the U.S. will commemorate the Semiquincentennial (250th) Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) will also commemorate this anniversary with three opportunities for Catholics to take part.

Opportunity 1 Parishes and individuals can participate by contributing to a collective 250 Hours of Adoration, in your home or church, during the 250th Anniversary of America.

Opportunity 2 250 Hrs of Works of Mercy. Works of mercy can include assisting at our local crisis pregnancy center or local food pantry & clothing closets, volunteering at and donating to our local St. Vincent de Paul. For examples and guides go to [https://www.usccb.org/resources/America 250 Catholic Resource - 250 Hours of Adoration and 250 Works of Mercy.pdf](https://www.usccb.org/resources/America%20Catholic%20Resource%20-%20250%20Hours%20of%20Adoration%20and%20250%20Works%20of%20Mercy.pdf)

Opportunity 3 The USCCB Consecration of the United States to the Sacred Heart of Jesus on Thursday; June 11, 2026. To prepare for the Consecration the Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus may be incorporated into Holy Hour.

Sheets will be posted on the table in the narthex so that you can log your Adoration time and/or your Works of Mercy time. The collective hours of STM will be reported to the USCCB around mid June. Visit <https://www.usccb.org/weholdthesetruths>, to see the contributions of Catholics and the impact of our faith on the history of this country.

ATTENTION ALL WOMEN OF THE PARISH

MISSED APRIL'S MEETING? NO WORRIES!
THE NEXT WOMEN OF STM MEETING
SATURDAY, MAY 16 at 10A

Did you know... ALL women of STM are automatic members of this group! Please stop by and check out this wonderful group of spirit led ladies! You'll be pleasantly surprised.



TODAY YOU WILL BE WITH ME IN PARADISE

PARISHIONER UPDATE:

We regret to inform you that our dear parishioner Joseph C. Di Duca, passed away April 7. He was 97. An active member of the community and our parish, he worked diligently to ensure the STM weekly bulletin was properly funded and travelled extensively for the Lions Club while managing a real estate business and many other interests.

Joe's funeral will be held at St. Thomas More Saturday, May 9, at 10A. The Women of St. Thomas More will provide support for the repast which follows.

In lieu of flowers, the family welcomes donations to St. Thomas More Catholic Church or the Lions Eye Foundation of California-Nevada.

Please keep Barbara Braun, his children, and Joe in your prayers.

Breakfast Burritos Cinco de Mayo

SUNDAY, May 3

Immediately following 10:30 and 12:30 Masses

St. Thomas More Catholic Church

Good Food. Good cause. Good fellowship

\$10.00 – Adults \$30.00 – Families

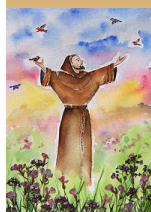
Tickets at the door



2 Knights of Columbus (KofC) Scholarship Programs NOW Open

The Knights are offering two scholarships for students who are entering, or enrolled in an accredited community college, college, university, vocational or trade school.
KofC - John T. Donohue Fourth Degree Assembly Scholarship has up to \$2,000 available. Pick up application in the parish office or click [https://kofc-ca-d2.org/wp-content/Docs/Assembly Scholarship Application.pdf](https://kofc-ca-d2.org/wp-content/Docs/Assembly%20Scholarship%20Application.pdf) to see online.
Additionally, the KofC - St. Thomas More Council 7773 Scholarship has up to \$1,000 available. Pick up application in the parish office or click [https://kofc-ca-d2.org/wp-content/Docs/Assembly Scholarship Application.pdf](https://kofc-ca-d2.org/wp-content/Docs/Assembly%20Scholarship%20Application.pdf) to see online application. Completed applications for both scholarships are due by May 31.

Secular Franciscans GAMES DAY A Big Hit! Thank You!



Thank you for supporting the Franciscans Annual Games Day Saturday. Best one ever! And, thanks so much for your support of St. Vincent de Paul. We couldn't have done it without you. See you next year!

Ladies Bible Study Thurs., May 7 at 1P
Family Life Center - small meeting room
Questions? Call Gail Crowley 530-877-8474