



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

Wednesday, Thurs., & Friday 830A

Sunday Readings

1st Reading Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Que te adoren, Señor, todos los pueblos.

2nd Reading Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel Matthew 2:1-12

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 4TH

Sunday; January 4	Ron Martin	1030A
Domingo; 4 de Enero	Familia Nazareno Rodriguez	1230P español
Tues.; January 6	Angela Valdez Celia Elba Topete	6p
Wed.; January 7	The people of St. Thomas More parish	830A
Thurs.; January 8	The people of St. Thomas More parish	830A
Friday; January 9	John M. Evans Sr. †	830A

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR

Rod Montgomery
Raul Saavedra
Kim Steffen-Parkney
Mary Anne Durant
Isabel Rivera Leon
Andrea Inzunza
Joan Memmer
Leo Benedetti
Kim Avoy Helgeson
Gloria Klinger

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

Tim Steffen
Elaine Little
Ron Keyes
Theresa Durant
Sam Kempner
Richard Carmack
Helvia Saavedra
Celia Topete
Rosemary Peterson

JANUARY INTENTIONS OF POPE LEO XIV

For prayer with the Word of God

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

INTENCIONES DE ENERO DEL PAPA LEÓN XIV

Para la oración con la Palabra de Dios

Oremos para que la oración con la Palabra de Dios sea alimento para nuestras vidas y fuente de esperanza en nuestras comunidades, ayudándonos a construir una Iglesia más fraterna y misionera.

This Week's Readings

THE WEEKDAYS AFTER EPIPHANY

Monday; January 5thMEMORIAL OF ST.
JOHN NEUMANN,
BISHOP

1st Reading: 1 John 3:22-4:6

Psalm 2:7bc-8, 10-12a

I will give you all the nations for an inheritance.

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday; January 6th

1st Reading: 1 John 4:7-10

Psalm 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Gospel: Mark 6:34-44

Wednesday; January 7th

1st Reading: 1 John 4:11-18

Psalm 72:1-2, 10, 12-13

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Gospel: Mark 6:45-52

Thursday; January 8th

1st Reading: 1 John 4:19-5:4

Psalm 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Gospel: Luke 4:14-22

Friday; January 9th

1st Reading: 1 John 5:5-13

Psalm 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20

Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

Gospel: Luke 5:12-16

Saturday; January 10th

1st Reading: 1 John 5:14-21

Psalm 149:1-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b

The Lord takes delight in his people.

Gospel: John 3:22-30

Sunday; January 11th

The Baptism of the Lord

1st Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

Psalm 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

2nd Reading: Acts 10:34-38

Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

MEDITATION OF THE DAY

Mary's Song at the Epiphany



[Mary sang:] **All the chaste daughters of the Hebrews** and virgin daughters of rulers are amazed at me. Because of you [Jesus], a daughter of the poor is envied. Because of you, a daughter of the weak is an object of jealousy. Who gave you to me? Son of the Rich One, who despised the womb of rich women, what drew you toward the poor? For Joseph is needy, and I am impoverished. Your merchants brought gold to a house of the poor.... Behold your worshippers surround me, and their offerings encircle me. Blessed be the Babe who made his mother the lyre of his melodies. And since the lyre looks toward its master, my mouth looks toward you.

Let your will arouse your mother's tongue. Since I have learned by you a new way of conceiving, let my mouth learn by you a new [way of] giving birth to new glory. If difficult things for you are not difficult but easy, so that the womb conceived you without intercourse, and without seed the womb gave birth to you, it is easy for the mouth to be fruitful and to multiply your great glory.

Behold, I am slandered and oppressed, but I rejoice. My ears are full of scorn and disdain, but it is a small matter to me how much I shall endure, for a single [word of] consolation from you is able to chase away myriads of griefs.

Since I am not despised by you, my Son, I am confident. I who am slandered have conceived and given birth to the True Judge who will vindicate me. For if Tamar was acquitted by Judah, how much more will I be acquitted by you!

David, your father, sang a psalm to you before you came, that to you would be offered gold of Sheba. The psalm that he merely sang [now] in reality heaps before you myrrh and gold. The hundred and fifty psalms he sang were flavored by you since all the words of prophecy are in need of your seasoning. For without your salt all wisdom would lose its savor.— SAINT EPHREM THE SYRIAN

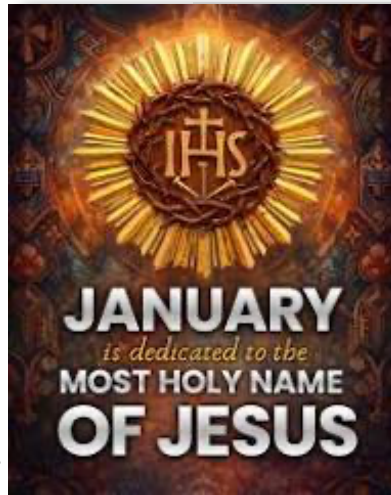
Saint Ephrem the Syrian († 373), a deacon, wrote hundreds of hymns in honor of the Blessed Trinity, the Incarnation, and the Blessed Virgin Mary. / From Ephrem the Syrian: Hymns, translated and introduced by Kathleen E. McVey. Copyright © 1989 by Kathleen E. McVey. Paulist Press, Inc., New York/Mahwah, NJ. Reprinted by permission of Paulist Press, Inc. www.paulistpress.com.

Excerpt from Magnificat Magazine, Meditation of the Day, January 4, 2026

HOMILY NOTES



¡Bienvenido al nuevo año! Enero ocupa un lugar importante en el calendario litúrgico de la Iglesia Católica. Es un tiempo en el que la Iglesia honra el Santo Nombre de Jesús, una celebración profundamente arraigada en la historia y la teología de la fe. A continuación, exploraremos las razones por las que enero está dedicado al Santo Nombre de Jesús y enumeraremos las fiestas y santos importantes asociados con esta devoción. La próxima semana: maneras de participar y oraciones católicas en honor al Santo Nombre.



Welcome to the new year! January holds a significant place in the Catholic Church's liturgical calendar. This is a time when the Church honors the Holy Name of Jesus, an observance deeply rooted in the faith's history & theology. Below, we explore the reasons behind January's dedication to the Holy Name of Jesus and list significant feast days and saints associated with this devotion. Next week: ways to participate & Catholic prayers in honor of the Holy Name of Jesus.

¿POR QUÉ EL MES DE ENERO ESTÁ DEDICADO AL SANTO NOMBRE DE JESÚS?

La Iglesia Católica dedica cada mes del año a una devoción particular, y en enero se honra el Santo Nombre de Jesús. La elección de enero para esta devoción está relacionada con la Fiesta de la Circuncisión de Cristo, que se celebraba el 1 de enero, ocho días después de Navidad, según la costumbre judía. Fue en ese momento cuando Jesús recibió oficialmente su nombre, que en hebreo significa "Dios salva".

La Fiesta del Santo Nombre de Jesús, que se celebra el 3 de enero, confirma aún más esta devoción. Esta fiesta fue concedida inicialmente a los franciscanos en 1530 y desde entonces se ha extendido por toda la Iglesia. Sirve como una oportunidad para que los fieles expresen su amor y reverencia por el Santo Nombre y recuerda el poder y la santidad del nombre de Jesús, que siempre debe ser pronunciado y recibido por quien lo escucha con profundo amor, respeto y reverencia.

Enero es un mes rico en celebraciones litúrgicas centradas en Nuestro Señor y su Santísima Madre.

1. Enero comenzó con la Fiesta de la Solemnidad de María, Madre de Dios, el día 1, que destacó el papel de María en la Encarnación de su divino Hijo, cuyo nombre le fue revelado por el ángel Gabriel y formalmente dado a Jesús en este día.
2. La Fiesta del Santo Nombre de Jesús se celebró el 3 de enero.
3. La Epifanía, que se celebra hoy, 4 de enero, conmemora la visita de los Reyes Magos al niño Jesús, reconociéndolo como el Mesías y Salvador del mundo.
4. La Fiesta del Bautismo del Señor, que se celebra el domingo 11 de enero, marca el comienzo de su ministerio, confirma su identidad como Hijo de Dios y concluye la temporada navideña.

FUENTE: <https://covenantcatholic.org/devotion-of-the-month/january-dedicated-to-the-holy-name-of-jesus/>

WHY JANUARY IS DEDICATED TO THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS

The Catholic Church dedicates each month of the year to a particular devotion and for January it is the Holy Name of Jesus. The choice of January for this devotion is linked to the Feast of the Circumcision of Christ, which had been celebrated on Jan. 1st, eight days after Christmas, in keeping with Jewish custom. This was when Jesus was officially given His name, which in Hebrew means "God Saves."

The Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus, celebrated on January 3rd, further confirms this dedication. This feast was initially granted to the Franciscans in 1530 and has since spread throughout the Church. It serves as an opportunity for the faithful to express love & reverence for the Holy Name and is a reminder of the power & sanctity of Jesus' name, which should always be spoken and received by the listener with profound love, respect, and reverence.

January is a month rich in liturgical celebrations focused on Our Lord and His Blessed Mother.

1. January began with the Feast of the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God on the 1st, which highlighted Mary's role in the Incarnation of Her divine Son, whose name was revealed to her by the angel Gabriel, and formally given to Jesus on this day.
2. The Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus was January 3rd.
3. The Epiphany, celebrated today, Sunday, January 4, commemorates the visit of the Magi to the baby Jesus, recognizing Him as the Messiah and Savior of the world.
4. The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, on Sunday, January 11, marks the beginning of His ministry, confirms His identity as the Son of God, and concludes the Christmas season.

Source: <https://covenantcatholic.org/devotion-of-the-month/january-dedicated-to-the-holy-name-of-jesus/>

**HAPPY NEW YEAR! REMINDERS!****It's January! The Tuesday 6p Bilingual Mass returns!****Pancake Breakfast****SUNDAY, JANUARY 4**

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

**ATTENTION!****MEN
of STM****SAVE
THESE
DATES:****Feb 27 thru
March 1****Join Deacon Gary & the
Passionist Retreat Team at
The Men's Retreat!**

Christ the King Retreat Center

Friday, February 27 to Sunday, March 1

Something is happening! Listen... Jesus is calling! Let's gather together for reflection, prayer, and community as we listen to the voice of Christ in our midst.

*"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, I am in the midst of them." —Matthew 18:20*Registration: \$290-Single | \$260-Double
Ride share will be available.

Pick up a flyer in the narthex for details.

Questions? See Deacon Gary after Mass**Grief Support Ministry**

The STM Grief Support Ministry is a response to the needs of people grieving the death of a loved one/ones, in their lives.

The goal of this Ministry is to ensure that no one grieves alone.

Meetings are monthly on the 2nd Wednesday.

The next meeting is Wed.; January 14 at 6p**Questions?** Call Cheryl Barron: 530-514-8859**Women of St. Thomas More Meeting****Saturday, January 17 | 9:30A | STM Hall (small room)****Join us for the first meeting of the new year!****Ladies!** Did you know? ALL women of the STM parish are automatic members of the Women of STM! It's true. So please consider checking out this fun group of Christ-led women.**Questions?** See Susie Boyd (president), Cathy Keesling, Lori MacPhail, Madeline Riley, or Rolawn Rehmann after Mass.**Upcoming
Adult
Education
Event:****Explore the Beauty of the
Catholic Faith with Deacon
Ray Helgeson!**

This new Adult study series will expand on the Catholic faith's profound spiritual depth, its rich traditions, and aesthetic grandeur; all of which points to God.

All are invited

Starts Tuesday, January 20, 9:30-11AThis will be an 8-week study
In the STM Hall**Questions?** See Deacon Ray after Mass.**WOMEN
of STM:****SAVE THE
DATE!****The Women's Retreat, for all ladies of
St. Thomas More parish, will be at
Christ the King Retreat Center January
30 to Feb. 1, 2026.**

Listen, Jesus is calling! This Retreat invites us to a spiritual gathering for reflection, prayer, and community as we listen to the voice of Christ in our midst.

Pick up a flyer in the narthex for details.

Questions? Cathy Keesling 530.828.0278
or Cheryl Barron: 530.514.8859.**MEN'S MINISTRY**

Friday; Jan. 9 | 7A | Church Hall Small Room

**ADORATION**Friday; Jan. 9 | Follows 830A Mass
Adoration ends at 6P