

# ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH



[www.stmparadise.org](http://www.stmparadise.org) | 530.877.4501 | Email: [office@stmparadise.org](mailto: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** Ezekiel 37:12-14

**Psalms** 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8

With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.  
Perdónanos, Señor, y viviremos.

**2nd Reading** Romans 8:8-11

**Gospel** John 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 6<sup>TH</sup>

Sunday; April 6	Hilda Messengert † Tomas Reyes †	1030A
Domingo 6 Abril	Abel Holguin Chávez † Ligia Mosquera †	1230P español
Tuesday; April 8	Lucia Flores †	6P
Wed.; April 9	For the Intentions of Art Sanchez	830A
Thurs.; April 10	<b>MASS CANCELLED</b>	<b>830A</b>
Friday; April 11	Por la salud de: Isabel y Juanita Rivera Leon	830A

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR

Connie Rehmann  
Kimberly Steffen-Parkney  
Raul Saavedra  
Jose Raul Rivera  
Mary Anne Durant  
Isabel Rivera Leon  
Juanita Rivera León

Samia Zumout  
Greg DeCristofaro  
Chris Rehmann  
Lourdes Collazo  
Carrie Sonsteng  
John Thomas

Tim Steffen  
Elaine Little  
Ron Keyes  
Theresa Durant  
Sam Kempner



**Stations of the Cross Friday at 6P - English in the Church,  
Spanish in the Hall - Soup Supper follows in the Hall.**

## APRIL INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS

**For the use of the new technologies**

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

## INTENCIONES DE ABRIL DEL PAPA FRANCISCO

**Por el uso de las nuevas tecnologías**

Oremos para que el uso de las nuevas tecnologías no sustituya las relaciones humanas, respete la dignidad de la persona y nos ayude a afrontar las crisis de nuestro tiempo.

## This Week's Readings

## THE FIFTH WEEK OF LENT

**Monday; April 7<sup>th</sup>**

1st Reading: Daniel 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41C-62

Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6

*Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side.*

Gospel: John 8:12-20

**Tuesday; April 8<sup>th</sup>**

1st Reading: Numbers 21:4-9

Psalm 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21

*O Lord, hear my prayer, and let my cry come to you.*

Gospel: John 8:21-30

**Wednesday; April 9<sup>th</sup>**

1st Reading: Daniel 3:14-20, 91-92, 95

Psalm Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56

*Glory and praise for ever!*

Gospel: John 8:31-42

**Thursday; April 10<sup>th</sup>**

1st Reading: Genesis 17:3-9

Psalm 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

*The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.*

Gospel: John 8:51-59

**Friday; April 11<sup>th</sup>**

1st Reading: Jeremiah 20:10-13

Psalm 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7

*In my distress I called upon the Lord, and he heard my voice.*

Gospel: John 10:31-42

**Saturday; April 12<sup>th</sup>**

1st Reading: Ezekiel 37:21-28

Psalm Jeremiah 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13

*The Lord will guard us, as a shepherd guards his flock.*

Gospel: John 11:45-56

## MEDITATION OF THE DAY

How to Understand Jesus  
and His Heavenly Father

**[When engaging in] interior prayer, we can take** as the subject of our meditation, one of the mysteries of our holy religion, especially the mysteries of our Lord. By the mysteries of our Lord we mean the principal actions that the Son of God made man accomplished for our salvation, such as his Incarnation, his Nativity, his Circumcision, and his Passion and Death. We can also meditate on one of the mysteries of the Most Blessed Virgin, such as her Immaculate Conception, her - nativity, and the like.

**We begin by filling ourselves with the spirit of the mystery** by considering either what the Gospel says about it or what the Church teaches on the subject.... We must join to this an interior desire to profit from it and to receive the spirit, the grace, and the benefits that our Lord wishes us to draw from it. Jesus Christ accomplished these divine mysteries of our holy religion not only to redeem us but also to instruct and to lead us by his example to practice the most profound and sanctifying virtues that he practiced....

**Each mystery has its own unique spirit** because our Lord practiced certain evident virtues in it that we can observe with particular admiration and astonishment when we pay serious, profound attention to the mystery. Our Lord practiced these virtues to give us an example and to lead us to practice them in imitation of him, aided by the grace he merited for us that accompanies the mystery as a component of its spirit and its reality. For example, the spirit of the mystery of the Incarnation is charity. It is by charity and by love for the human race, as our Lord says, that the eternal Father gave his only Son (Jn 3:16), that the Son became incarnate, and that the Holy Spirit accomplished this mystery. The spirit of the Incarnation is also humility, for as St. Paul says, the Son of God emptied himself, taking the form of a slave (Phil 2:7). The spirit of the mystery of our Lord's Nativity is the spirit of childhood. When the Son of God came into this world, as we read in St. John's gospel, to those who did accept him, he gave power to become children of God (Jn 1:12). This spirit of childhood consists of simplicity, docility, purity, and contempt for worldly riches and grandeur. —SAINT JOHN BAPTIST DE LA SALLE

Saint John Baptist de la Salle († 1719) was a French priest who founded the Brothers of the Christian Schools, and is the patron of teachers. / From John Baptist de la Salle: *The Spirituality of Christian Education* (CWS), edited and introduced by Carl Koch, Jeffrey Calligan, f.s.c., Jeffrey Gros, f.s.c. Copyright © 2004 by Carl Koch, Jeffrey Calligan and Jeffrey Gros, published by Paulist Press, Inc., New York/ Mahwah, NJ. [www.paulistpress.com](http://www.paulistpress.com).

Excerpt from *Magnificat Magazine*, Meditation of the Day, April 6, 2025

## HOMILY NOTES





## ¡Bienvenidos a abril! Este mes está tradicionalmente dedicado a Jesús en el sacramento de la Eucaristía.

La Iglesia Católica enseña que el Santísimo Sacramento es la presencia real y viva de Cristo –su Cuerpo, Sangre, Alma y Divinidad– que recibimos en nuestras almas con cada recepción de la Sagrada Comunión. Nuestro Señor Eucarístico es la fuente y cumbre de nuestra vida cristiana, la prueba suprema de su infinito amor por nosotros. Este mes podemos profundizar nuestra devoción a la Eucaristía asistiendo a la Adoración Eucarística (para profundizar nuestra relación con Cristo y expresar nuestro amor y gratitud por su sacrificio) y participando en el Santo Sacrificio de la Misa (que conmemora la Última Cena y el sacrificio de Cristo en la cruz). Durante este mes especial, considere inscribirse para una hora de adoración perpetua. El libro de inscripciones está sobre la mesa del Nártex.



**Welcome to April! This month is traditionally devoted to Jesus in the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.** The Catholic Church teaches that the Blessed Sacrament is the real and living presence of Christ –His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity– received into our souls with every reception of Holy Communion. Our Eucharistic Lord is the source and summit of our Christian life, the

ultimate proof of His infinite love for us. This month we can deepen our devotion to the Eucharist by attending Eucharistic Adoration (to deepen our relationship with Christ & express our love and gratitude for His sacrifice.) and by participating in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass (which commemorates the Last Supper & Christ's sacrifice on the cross.). During this special month consider signing up for time (30 mins? 1 hr?) in perpetual adoration. The sign-up book is on the table in the Narthex.

## Siete Reflexiones Personales Para Abril

1. ¿Cómo agradezco al Señor su sacrificio en la cruz?
2. ¿Qué significa para mí recibir la Eucaristía con reverencia?
3. ¿Cómo siento el amor de Dios en la adoración?
4. ¿Qué me ayuda a concentrarme durante la misa y la adoración eucarística?
5. ¿Cómo comparto con los demás el amor de Cristo a través del Santísimo Sacramento?
6. ¿Dejo que el Espíritu Santo obre en mi vida?
7. ¿Cómo sigo la inspiración del Espíritu Santo en mi vida diaria?





## Seven Personal Reflections for April

1. How do I thank the Lord for His sacrifice on the cross?
2. What does it mean to me to receive the Eucharist reverently?
3. How do I feel God's love in adoration?
4. What helps me to focus during Mass & Eucharistic Adoration?
5. How do I share with others the love of Christ thru the Blessed Sacrament?
6. Do I let the Holy Spirit work in my life?
7. How do I follow the Holy Spirit's prompting in my daily life?

## ORACIÓN DE ADORACIÓN

Te adoro, oh Jesús, verdadero Dios y verdadero Hombre, aquí presente en la Sagrada Eucaristía, humildemente arrodillado ante Ti y unido en espíritu con todos los fieles de la tierra y todos los bienaventurados del cielo. Con profunda gratitud por tan gran bendición, te amo, Jesús mío, con todo mi corazón, porque eres perfecto y digno de amor. Concédeme la gracia de no ofenderte nunca más, y concédeme que, reconfortado por tu presencia eucarística aquí en la tierra, sea digno de gozar con María de tu eterna y bendita presencia en el cielo. Amén.

## 4PASOS PARA LA ADORACIÓN EUCARÍSTICA

 <b>1 RECONOCER LA PRESENCIA DE DIOS</b> 15 MINS	 <b>2 ACCIÓN DE GRACIAS</b> 15 MINS	 <b>3 PETICIÓN</b> 15 MINS	 <b>4 EXPIACIÓN</b> 15 MINS
Ponte en la presencia de Cristo.	Da gracias por todas las bendiciones que Dios te ha dado.	Pide por el mundo por las personas que te rodean y por tu conversión.	Expresa tu dolor por el pecado del mundo y por el tuyo.

## PRAYER OF ADORATION

I adore Thee, O Jesus, true God and true Man, here present in the Holy Eucharist, humbly kneeling before Thee and united in spirit with all the faithful on earth and all the blessed in heaven. In deepest gratitude for so great a blessing, I love Thee, my Jesus, with my whole heart, for Thou art all perfect and all worthy of love.

Give me grace nevermore in any way to offend Thee, and grant that I, being refreshed by Thy Eucharistic presence here on earth, may be found worthy to come to the enjoyment with Mary of Thine eternal and ever blessed presence in heaven. Amen.



Fuente y Fuente de oracion <https://www.morningoffering.com/offering/04-01/>; <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/view.cfm?id=755>; <https://ffbl.org/5-things-you-should-know-about-catholic-devotion-during-the-holy-month-of-april/>; <https://catholic-link.org/april-is-devoted-to-the-blessed-sacrament-and-the-holy-spirit-mark-your-calendar/>

Sources: <https://www.morningoffering.com/offering/04-01/>; <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/view.cfm?id=755>; [https://ffbl.org/5-things-you-should-know-about-catholic-devotion-during-the-holy-month-of-april/#:~:text=The month of April is also dedicated to the Holy of Christ in the world.,https://catholic-link.org/april-is-devoted-to-the-blessed-sacrament-and-the-holy-spirit-mark-your-calendar/](https://ffbl.org/5-things-you-should-know-about-catholic-devotion-during-the-holy-month-of-april/#:~:text=The%20month%20of%20April%20is%20also%20dedicated%20to%20the%20Holy%20of%20Christ%20in%20the%20world.,https://catholic-link.org/april-is-devoted-to-the-blessed-sacrament-and-the-holy-spirit-mark-your-calendar/)

**About Sunday's Insert: INTRO to THEME 2 of THE JUBILEE YEAR 2025 PILGRIMS OF HOPE****- To Be Living Stones in God's Temple**

As Pilgrims of Hope, we believe: together, we will be living stones in God's temple. "Like living stones, let yourself be built into a spiritual house." (1 Peter 2:5)

The Lord compared Himself to the stone which the builders rejected, but which was made into the cornerstone - and upon this cornerstone the Church is built. (Lumen Gentium, no. 6) In Lumen Gentium, we are

reminded that "the disciples of Christ, persevering in prayer & praising God, should present themselves as a living sacrifice, holy & pleasing to God". We must "bear witness to Christ and give an answer to those who seek an account of that hope of eternal life which is in them". (Lumen Gentium, no. 10) The spiritual house of God is a building designed for His glory, and we, the living stones, glorify the Lord in all we do (1 Cor. 10:31, Lumen Gentium, no. 10). The baptized have become "living stones" to be "built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood" (1 Pt. 2:9). As living stones, our belief and faithfulness to Christ is strong, firm and not easily moved. To be a "living stone" is to be a "speaker of praise, a declarer of truth and love and light." (1 Cor. 10:31, CCC, no. 1268)

By baptism, we "share in the priesthood of Christ, in his prophetic and royal mission". We must bear witness to Christ and give an answer to those who seek an account of that hope of eternal life that is within them". (Lumen Gentium, no. 10)

Written by Bishop Soto, Jubilee on the diocesan themes for the Jubilee Year. For further reflections on theme 2, please visit <https://www.scd.org/Jubilee2025>



### GET YOUR WINE AT NEW CLAIRVAUX RECEIVE A DONATION FOR 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? Easy!

- Go to <https://newclairvauxvineyard.square.site> to purchase the wine of your choice. (Or use this QR code

NOTE: If you plan to pick up your wine at New Clairvaux enter the code **FREESHIP** to avoid shipping costs.

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

New Clairvaux Winery & Tasting Room  
26240 7th St., Vina, CA., 96092 | 530.839.2200

Questions? See Jim Collins after Mass.



## Meeting Reminders

- The C.O.N.T.R.O.L Life Management Program** for Catholic women meet Thursday April 10, 930A to 11A, in the Hall's small room. This group meets weekly thru April 17. Questions? Contact Donna Helgeson 530.282.2132 or [dhelg66@gmail.com](mailto:dhelg66@gmail.com)
- The Men's Prayer Group** will meet Friday, April 11 at 7A in the Hall's small room.
- Adoration** Friday, April 11, following 830A Mass until 6P.
- Stations of the Cross** Friday, April 11 at 6P: English in the Church; Spanish in the Hall. Soup Supper follows in the Hall.
- The Women of St. Thomas More** will meet Saturday, April 19 at 10A in the Hall's small room.



### The Women of STM Make Presentation to CareNet of Paradise



Left to right: Cheryl Barron, Ashley Lundberg, Kathy DeCristofaro, Barbara Collins.

A \$1,000.00 check was presented to CareNet of Paradise for the Center to use in its efforts to support women and families seeking alternatives to abortion. This money comes at a critical time when CareNet & other pro-life organizations face strong, well-funded opposition by groups including the State of California which has allocated a \$20 million "Abortion Practical Support Fund," to

help cover costs like travel, lodging, and meals for women seeking abortions in California; this includes women from other states. California's pro-abortion laws conflict with Catholic teaching. In Pope Saint John Paul II's encyclical, Evangelium vitae (1995), no. 72, he wrote, Laws which legitimize the direct killing of innocent human beings through abortion or euthanasia are in complete opposition to the inviolable right to life proper to every individual; they thus deny the equality of everyone before the law.

CareNet provides essential services & support to include pregnancy testing, ultrasound, individual and family counseling and a number of other services. The check was presented on behalf of The Women of STM to Ashley Lundberg-CareNet director of development, by Kathy DeCristofaro-parish pro-life coordinator, Barbara Collins, and Cheryl Barron.

If you would like to donate to CareNet of Paradise please see Kathy DeCristofaro.



### WILL YOU HELP K<sup>of</sup>C COLLECT CANS FOR LENT?

Please help the Knights of Columbus collect canned foods during Lent now thru Easter Sunday. All donations go to the 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church Food Pantry which STM supports thru our Table of Plenty donations. **Questions?** Contact Greg DeCristofaro by email [GREGDEC@att.net](mailto:GREGDEC@att.net) or (530) 873-4132H (530) 588-3790C.

