

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*

Parish Steward *Greg Kidder*

Secretary *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, Thursday, and Friday 830A

Sunday Readings

1st Reading *Baruch 5:1-9*

Psalm *126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6.*

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Grandes cosas has hecho por nosotros, Señor.

2nd Reading *Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11*

Gospel *Luke Lk 3:1-6*



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 8TH

<i>Sunday; Dec. 8</i>	<i>Betty Mollis †</i>	<i>1030A</i>
	<i>Intentions of David Brown on his birthday</i>	
<i>Domingo; 8 dic</i>	<i>Párrocos de Santo Tomás Moro</i>	<i>1230P español</i>
<i>Monday; Dec. 9</i>	<i>Jefferson Read †</i>	<i>Noon</i>
	<i>Bill Bechtold †</i>	<i>530P</i>
		<i>7P</i>
<i>Tuesday; Dec. 10</i>	<i>Inocentes Benny †</i>	<i>6P</i>
<i>Wed.; Dec. 11</i>	<i>Russell Pistole †</i>	<i>830A</i>
<i>Thurs.; Dec. 12</i>	<i>For the health of Art Sanchez</i>	<i>830A</i>
	<i>Por las intenciones de Martha Martinez</i>	<i>6P</i>
<i>Friday; Dec. 13</i>	<i>Shirley Howard †</i>	<i>830A</i>

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR

Michael Krzanich

Cathy Larsen

Lorraine Carr

Angela Babcock

Sharon Calhoun

Nancy Cornett

Linda Alberghotti

Ben Richards

Patrick Wallenan

Mary Braddick

Carrie Sue Sonsteng

Sam Kempner

Tylor Koski

Victor Furrer

Kimberly Helgeson Avoy

Denis Helgeson

Joyce Finch

Rod Montgomery

David Porter

Barbara Maldonado

Lora Ginn

Senona Gonzalez

Samia Zumout

Karen Reynolds

Don H

DECEMBER INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS

For pilgrims of hope

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthens our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

INTENCIONES DE DICIEMBRE DEL PAPA FRANCISCO

Para los peregrinos de la esperanza

Oramos para que este Año Jubilar fortalezca nuestra fe, ayudándonos a reconocer a Cristo Resucitado en nuestra vida diaria, y que nos transforme en peregrinos de la esperanza cristiana.

This Week's Readings

SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT

Monday; December 9th

1st Reading: Genesis 3:9-15, 20

Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4

Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous deeds.

2nd Reading: Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

Tuesday; December 10th

1st Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11

Psalm 96:1-2, 3 & 10ac, 11-12, 13

The Lord our God comes with power.

Gospel: Matthew 18:12-14

Wednesday; December 11th

1st Reading: Isaiah 40:25-31

Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10

O bless the Lord, my soul!

Gospel: Matthew 11:28-30

Thursday; December 12th

1st Reading: Zechariah 2:14-17 or

Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab

Psalm Judith 13:18BCDE, 19

You are the highest honor of our race.

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

Friday; December 13th

1st Reading: Isaiah 48:17-19

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

Those who follow you, Lord, will have the light of life.

Gospel: Matthew 11:16-19

Saturday; December 14th

1st Reading: Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11

Psalm 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Gospel: Matthew 17:9a, 10-13

SOLEMNITY OF THE
IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

FEAST OF OUR
LADY OF
GUADALUPE

MEMORIAL OF SAINT
LUCY, VIRGIN AND
MARTYR

MEMORIAL OF SAINT
JOHN OF THE CROSS,
PRIEST & DOCTOR
OF THE CHURCH



MEDITATION OF THE DAY

Seeing the Salvation of God



*Advent is not only a time of waiting for eternity—it is also in a very special sense a time of inner joy that cannot be driven out by suffering. This can perhaps be understood best if we look closely at the inner content and meaning of our Advent practices.... The people of God have, as it were, translated Scripture into a visible form. In Psalm 96, for example, we read: Then shall all the trees of the wood sing for joy before the Lord, for he comes. In our Advent liturgy, these words have been joined to words from other psalms and the whole has been extended until we have: Mountains and hills will sing praises before God and all the trees of the wood will clap their hands, for the Lord is coming, the ruler, to an eternal kingdom. Our decorated Christmas trees are really nothing but an attempt to make these words visible. The Lord is there. Our ancestors believed this and the trees of the wood had therefore to go to meet him, bend down before him, and be a song of praise to their Lord.... **Even our Christmas fare has its roots in the Church's Advent liturgy,** which echoes the wonderful words of the Old Testament: On that day the mountains will drip sweetness and the rivers will bring down milk and honey. It was in words such as these that men in the past expressed their hopes in a redeemed world.... [God] as it were distributes honey and it must therefore be true that the earth flows with it. Where he is, there can, after all, be no bitterness. In his presence, heaven and earth are in harmony and God and man are at one. Honey and all the sweet things of Christmas are the sign of this peace, concord, and joy. Christmas became the feast of giving, and in this we imitate the God who gives himself and also gives us life [and] that one Love which cannot be threatened by death or unfaithfulness or deceit.*

All these elements come together in our joy that God became a Child who encourages us to trust as children trust, to give ourselves, and to let ourselves receive. It is perhaps quite difficult for us to accept this joy when we are troubled by questions and when physical illness and spiritual problems attack us and make us rebel against the God we cannot understand. But this Child is a sign of hope, and that sign is made on those who are in any way distressed. We ought to celebrate Advent by allowing the signs of this special time to penetrate freely into our hearts...and then, full of trust, accept the immeasurable goodness of the Child who made the mountains and hills sing and transformed the trees of the wood into a song of praise. — POPE BENEDICT XV

Benedict XVI († 2022) reigned as pope from 2005 until 2013. / From Seeking God's Face. © 2020 by Cluny Media, P.O. Box 1664, Providence, RI 02901. www.clunymedia.com

Excerpt from Magnificat Magazine, Meditation of the Day, Dec. 8, 2024

HOMILY NOTES

Three horizontal lines for writing homily notes, each line is preceded by a dashed line.



Diciembre está tradicionalmente dedicado a la Inmaculada Concepción. Celebramos Solemnidad de la Inmaculada Concepción de la Santísima Virgen María 9 de diciembre.

La Santísima Virgen María, en el primer momento de su concepción, por singular privilegio de Dios Todopoderoso, y en vista de los méritos de Jesucristo, nuestro Salvador y suyo, fue preservada de toda mancha del pecado original. Esta antigua creencia de la Iglesia fue definida por el Papa Pío IX en 1854 como un artículo de verdad revelada:

María necesitaba redención y de hecho fue redimida por la Preciosa Sangre de Jesucristo. Sin embargo, la manera de la redención de María fue única. En lugar de ser liberada del pecado original después de haberlo contraído, fue preservada de contraerlo. Este fue un favor muy apropiado para la Madre del Redentor.

ORACIÓN DE ALABANZA A LA VIRGEN INMACULADA

INVOCACIÓN Oh María, sin pecado concebida, ruega por nosotros que recurrimos a ti.

Oh Virgen pura, inmaculada y igualmente bendita, que eres la Madre sin pecado de tu Hijo, el poderoso Señor del universo, tú que eres inviolable y enteramente santa, la esperanza de los desesperados y pecadores, cantamos tus alabanzas. Te bendecimos, llena de toda gracia, tú que llevaste al Dios-Hombre: todos nos inclinamos ante ti; Te invocamos e imploramos tu ayuda. Rescátanos, oh Virgen santa e inviolable, de toda necesidad que nos apremia y de todas las tentaciones del diablo. Sé nuestro intercesor y abogado en la hora de la muerte y del juicio; líbranos del fuego que no se apaga y de las tinieblas exteriores; haznos dignos de la gloria de tu Hijo, oh Virgen Madre queridísima y clemente. Tú, en verdad, eres nuestra única esperanza, muy segura y sagrada ante los ojos de Dios, a quien sea el honor y la gloria, la majestad y el dominio por los siglos de los siglos y sin fin. Amén. –San Efrén el Sirio

FUENTE: <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/view.cfm?id=765#:~:text=The%20month%20of%20December%20is,all%20stain%20of%20original%20sin.>

Fuente de oración: The Prayer Book, by Reverend John P. O'Connell, M.A., S.T.D.



December is traditionally dedicated to the Immaculate Conception which we celebrate

Monday, Dec. 9. The Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first moment of her conception, by a singular privilege of Almighty God, and in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, our Savior and hers, was preserved from all stain of original sin.

This age-old belief of the Church was defined by Pope Pius IX in 1854 as an article of revealed

truth:

Mary was in need of redemption and she was indeed redeemed by the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ. The manner of Mary's redemption, however, was unique. Instead of being freed from original sin after having contracted it, she was preserved from contracting it. This was a most fitting favor for the Mother of the Redeemer.

PRAYER OF PRAISE TO THE VIRGIN IMMACULATE

INVOCATION O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee.

O pure and immaculate and likewise blessed Virgin, who art the sinless Mother of thy Son, the mighty Lord of the universe, thou who art inviolate and altogether holy, the hope of the hopeless and sinful, we sing thy praises. We bless thee, as full of every grace, thou who didst bear the God-Man: we all bow low before thee; we invoke thee and implore thine aid. Rescue us, O holy and inviolate Virgin, from every necessity that presses upon us and from all the temptations of the devil. Be our intercessor and advocate at the hour of death and judgment; deliver us from the fire that is not extinguished and from the outer darkness; make us worthy of the glory of thy Son, O dearest and most clement Virgin Mother. Thou indeed art our only hope, most sure and sacred in God's sight, to whom be honor and glory, majesty and dominion for ever and ever world without end. Amen. –Saint Ephrem the Syrian

Source: <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/view.cfm?id=765#:~:text=The%20month%20of%20December%20is,all%20stain%20of%20original%20sin.>

Prayer Source: The Prayer Book, by Reverend John P. O'Connell, M.A.,

ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH WILL MAKE CHRISTMAS DONATION TO THE CHIRI CLINIC IN ETHIOPIA

You may recall that our Thanksgiving collection would benefit the Chiri Clinic in Ethiopia, Africa, where Sister Zully Cardenas Carreon, from the Congregation of the Eucharistic Missionaries of the Infant Jesus and Our Lady of Fatima (MEJIF), is serving as a missionary. Our collection resulted in \$4,465 for the Chiri Clinic in Ethiopia! We will send the funds for Christmas. There's still time for you to contribute. Please drop off your donation at the church office.



Join Us for the Next Session of the Advent Series Thursday, Dec. 12

Deacon Helgeson leads a series on studying & praying scriptures on the promises & power of the gift of hope. **Gather** with friends & community during this time of Advent to grow and share our Catholic Faith. **Focus** on studying & praying the wealth of Scripture concerning the promises & power of the gift of hope. **Topics** include the relation of hope to faith, the promises Christ offers us, and the prayerful means to enter more deeply into the gifts God has given us in our daily lives.



Thursdays | Dec. 12 & 19 | 930A - 11A

**Plus one evening session
Tuesday | Dec. 17 | 630p - 830p**

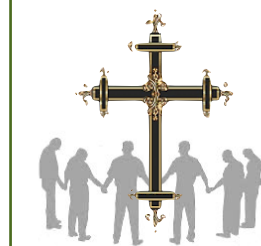


Monday; Dec. 9th
Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
~ A Holy Day of Obligation ~
Masses: Noon, 530P & 7P
English English español



Sacrament of Reconciliation Times Expanded!

Tuesdays 5p to 5:45p
Wed., & Thurs. 8a to 825a
Friday 8a to 825A & 430p to 545p



Attention Men of STM!

Please join Deacon Tom O'Connell for the **Men's Ministry**
Friday | 7A | in the church

Reminder: Adoration New Time



Adoration is now every Friday after Mass, 9A to 6p. Please sign up in the Narthex for time to be with Jesus. He's waiting for us!



Women of St. Thomas More

5th Annual Christmas Gathering
Saturday | Dec. 14 | 6P
6475 Apple Creek Dr., Paradise



Advent Penance Services 6P



Friday; Dec. 13
St. Thomas More
Paradise



Wed.; Dec. 18
St. Thomas the Apostle
Oroville

ATTN BUSINESS OWNERS! FREE LISTINGS FOR YOU ON STM WEBSITE!

Our parish website now offers a free business listing for all business owners who are registered parishioners at St. Thomas More Church.

To add your business to the website it's **1-Step easy!**

1. Send Jim Collins an electronic copy of your flyer, business card, or the URL to your business's website to jimcollins_95991@yahoo.com

(Note: if you can't send your info electronically, you can give Jim a paper copy of your information before or after Mass.)

That's it in 1 step! Jim will then add your business to the STM website.

Donations to our church are always appreciated.

To see the current businesses listed, go to <https://stmparadise.org/parishioner-businesses>, or click the QR Code to the left. **Please support the businesses of our registered parishioners!**

