

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 *Zephaniah 3:14-18a*

Psalm *Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6.*

Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

El Señor es mi Dios y salvador.

2nd Reading *Philippians 4:4-7*

Gospel *Luke 3:10-18*



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 8TH

<i>Sunday; Dec. 15</i>	<i>Le Roy Howard †</i>	<i>1030A</i>
<i>Domingo; 15 dic</i>	—————	<i>1230P español</i>
<i>Tuesday; Dec. 17</i>	<i>Carol Zellmer †</i>	<i>6P</i>
<i>Wed.; Dec. 18</i>	<i>Jessica Manning †</i>	<i>830A</i>
<i>Thurs.; Dec. 19</i>	<i>Bill Bechtold †</i>	<i>830A</i>
<i>Friday; Dec. 20</i>	<i>Francisco & Julieta Rivera Aniversario de Bodas #31</i>	<i>830A</i>

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR

*Karla Valenzuela
Cathy Larsen
Lorraine Carr
Angela Babcock
Sharon Calhoun
Nancy Cornett
Linda Alberghotti
Amanda McDonald
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

THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT

Monday; December 16th

1st Reading: Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17a

Psalm 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9

Teach me your ways, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 21:23-27

Tuesday; December 17th

1st Reading: Genesis 49:2, 8-10

Psalm 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17

Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

Gospel: Matthew 1:1-17

Wednesday; December 18th

1st Reading: Jeremiah 23:5-8

Psalm 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19

Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

Thursday; December 19th

1st Reading: Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a

Psalm 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17

My mouth shall be filled with your praise, and I will sing your glory!

Gospel: Luke 1:5-25

Friday; December 20th

1st Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14

Psalm 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6

Let the Lord enter; he is the king of glory.

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

Saturday; December 21st1st Reading: Song of Songs 2:8-14 or
Zephaniah 3:14-18a

Psalm 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21

Exult, you just, in the Lord! Sing to him a new song.

Gospel: Luke 1:39 - 45



MEDITATION OF THE DAY

The One We Await

We are waiting for the Savior (Phil 3:20). Such waiting is truly a joy to the righteous, who are waiting for the hope of blessedness, the glorious coming of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. "What am I waiting for," a righteous man may ask, "but the Lord?" (cf. Ps 39:8). "I know," he says, turning towards him, "that you will not disappoint me after such a wait as mine. Already my being is with you; for our nature, taken from amongst us and offered on our behalf, is glorified with you. This gives us hope; for all flesh will come to you, the members following their Head." ***But a man can wait for the Lord the more trustfully if his conscience is so at rest as to let him say:*** "Every smallest possession of mine, Lord, is entirely yours, for I have treasured up in heaven all my powers, either by giving them to you or by renouncing them for you. At your feet I have laid down all that is mine, knowing you will be able not just to keep it safe, but to restore it to me multiplied a hundredfold and to add to it eternal life."

How blessed are you, poor in spirit, who in accordance with the advice of the Wonderful Counselor lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, lest your hearts become corrupt by remaining on earth with your treasure. For, he says, where your treasure is there your heart is also (Mt 6:21). Let your hearts go then, let them go after their treasures; let your attention be fixed on high and your expectancy hang upon the Lord, so that you can justly say with the apostle: Our abiding place is in heaven, from where we are expecting the Savior to come (Phil 3:20).

O hope of all peoples, everyone who waits for you shall not be disappointed. Our fathers waited for you—all the righteous from the beginning of the world hoped in you—and they have not been disappointed. For they have now received your mercy in the midst of your temple. — BLESSED GUERRIC OF IGNY

Blessed Gueric of Igny († 1157) was an abbot and a close friend of Saint Bernard. / From Liturgical Sermons: Volume 1, Gueric of Igny, Monks of Mount Saint Bernard Abbey, trs. © 1970 by Cistercian Publications, Inc. © 2008 by Order of Saint Benedict, Collegeville, Minnesota.

Excerpt from Magnificat Magazine, Meditation of the Day, Dec. 15, 2024

HOMILY NOTES



Diciembre está tradicionalmente dedicado a la Inmaculada Concepción. 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.

La oración del Papa Pío XII (abajo) dedicada a María Inmaculada, que compuso para el Año Mariano (8 de diciembre de 1953-8 de diciembre de 1954), fue proclamada con motivo del centenario de la definición del dogma de la Inmaculada Concepción.

ORACIÓN DEL PAPA PÍO XII A LA VIRGEN INMACULADA

Embelesados por el esplendor de tu celestial belleza, e impelidos por las inquietudes del mundo, nos arrojamos en tus brazos, oh Inmaculada Madre de Jesús y Madre nuestra, María, confiados de encontrar en tu amantísimo corazón el apaciguamiento de nuestros ardientes anhelos, y un puerto seguro contra las tempestades que nos acosan por todos lados.

Aunque degradados por nuestras faltas y abrumados por la infinita miseria, admiramos y alabamos la incomparable riqueza de dones sublimes con los que Dios te ha colmado, por encima de cualquier otra simple criatura, desde el primer momento de tu concepción hasta el día en que, después de tu ascensión, hasta el cielo, te coronó Reina del Universo.

¡Oh fuente cristalina de fe, baña nuestras mentes con las verdades eternas! ¡Oh fragante Lirio de toda santidad, cautiva nuestros corazones con tu celestial perfume! ¡Oh vencedora del mal y de la muerte, inspíranos un profundo horror al pecado, que hace que el alma sea detestable para Dios y esclava del infierno!

Oh bien amados de Dios, escucha el grito ardiente que sube de cada corazón. Inclínate tiernamente sobre nuestras dolorosas heridas. Convierte a los malvados, seca las lágrimas de los afligidos y oprimidos, consuela a los pobres y humildes, apaga los odios, endulza las durezas, salvaguarda la flor de la pureza en la juventud, protege a la santa Iglesia, haz que todos los hombres sientan la atracción de la bondad cristiana. Que en tu nombre, que resuena armoniosamente en el cielo, se reconozcan hermanos y que las naciones sean miembros de una sola familia, sobre la que brille el sol de una paz universal y sincera.

Recibe, oh Madre dulcísima, nuestras humildes súplicas, y sobre todo consíguenos que, un día, felices contigo, podamos repetir ante tu trono aquel himno que hoy se canta en la tierra alrededor de tus altares: Tú eres toda hermosa, ¡Oh María! ¡Tú eres la gloria, tú eres la alegría, tú eres el honor de nuestro pueblo! Amén.

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



December is traditionally dedicated to the Immaculate Conception. 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 prayer of Pope Pius XII (below), dedicated to Mary Immaculate, which he composed for the Marian Year (Dec. 8, 1953-Dec. 8, 1954), was proclaimed to mark the centenary of the definition of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception.

PRAYER OF POPE PIUS XII TO THE VIRGIN IMMACULATE

Enraptured by the splendor of your heavenly beauty, and impelled by the anxieties of the world, we cast ourselves into your arms, O Immaculate Mother of Jesus and our Mother, Mary, confident of finding in your most loving heart appeasement of our ardent desires, and a safe harbor from the tempests which beset us on every side.

Though degraded by our faults and overwhelmed by infinite misery, we admire and praise the peerless richness of sublime gifts with which God has filled you, above every other mere creature, from the first moment of your conception until the day on which, after your assumption into heaven, He crowned you Queen of the Universe.

O crystal fountain of faith, bathe our minds with the eternal truths! O fragrant Lily of all holiness, captivate our hearts with your heavenly perfume! O Conqueress of evil and death, inspire in us a deep horror of sin, which makes the soul detestable to God and a slave of hell!

O well-beloved of God, hear the ardent cry which rises up from every heart. Bend tenderly over our aching wounds. Convert the wicked, dry the tears of the afflicted and oppressed, comfort the poor and humble, quench hatreds, sweeten harshness, safeguard the flower of purity in youth, protect the holy Church, make all men feel the attraction of Christian goodness. In your name, resounding harmoniously in heaven, may they recognize that they are brothers, and that the nations are members of one family, upon which may there shine forth the sun of a universal and sincere peace.

Receive, O most sweet Mother, our humble supplications, and above all obtain for us that, one day, happy with you, we may repeat before your throne that hymn which today is sung on earth around your altars: You are all-beautiful, O Mary! You are the glory, you are the joy, you are the honor of our people! Amen.

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



Join Us THIS WEEK for the FINAL Sessions of the Advent Series

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.



1 Comprehensive evening session
Tuesday | Dec. 17 | 630p - 830p

The final of the three sessions
Thursday | Dec. 19 | 930A - 11A



Posadas Navideñas
This Week's Schedule

Monday	Church	6p
Tuesday	Hall (bilingual)	515p
Wed.	Hall	6p
Thurs.	Church	6p
Friday	Church	615p
Sat.	Church	6p

Next Sunday Dec. 22 **Potluck and Piñatas 2p**



Sacrament of Reconciliation Times Expanded!

Tuesdays 5p to 5:45p
Wed., & Thurs. 8a to 8:25a
Friday 8a to 8:25A & 4:30p to 5:45p

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!



Attention Men of STM!

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



Advent Penance Service 6P



This is the final penance service for Advent



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!**