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 8

Sunday Readings

1st Reading *Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31*
Psalm *128:1-2, 3, 4-5*
Blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Señor, mi alma tiene sed de ti.

2nd Reading *1 Thessalonians 5:1-6*
Gospel *Matthew 25:14-30*

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK OF NOVEMBER 15TH

Sunday; November 15	*For the Holy Souls in Purgatory †*	*1030A*
Domingo; 15 de noviembre	*Por las benditas almas del purgatorio †*	*1230P español*
Tues.; November 17	*For the Holy Souls in Purgatory †*	*6P*
Wed.; November 18	*For the Holy Souls in Purgatory †*	*830A*
Thurs.; November 19	*For the Holy Souls in Purgatory †*	*830A*
Friday; November 20	*For the Holy Souls in Purgatory †*	*830A*



PRAY FOR THE HOLY SOULS IN PURGATORY

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

LET US PRAY FOR

Rod Montgomery
Bernhard Family
Mary Anne Durant
Andrea Inzunza
Kimberly Laird
Leo Benedetti
The Mortenson Family
Michael Coronado
Joan Memmer
Beverly Brown
Peg McMahon
Samia Zumout
Carrie Sonsteng
Art Sanchez
Santiago Ávila
Carlos Torres
Tony & Francene Packett
Larry Young
Kim DeFretias
Mark Jimenez
Bob Gallagher
Bryant Smith
Ron Keyes
Theresa Durant
Dolores Costello
Rosemary Peterson
David Brown
Gloria Klinger
The Ginn's Family
Rafael Baez
Humberto Bozzo

NOVEMBER INTENTIONS OF POPE LEO XIV

For the proper use of wealth

Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be put at the service, the common good and solidarity of those who have less.

INTENCIONES DE NOVIEMBRE DEL PAPA LEÓN XIV

Por el uso adecuado de la riqueza

Oremos por el uso adecuado de la riqueza: que, sin sucumbir a la tentación del egoísmo, esta se ponga siempre al servicio del bien común y de la solidaridad con quienes tienen menos.

This Week's Readings

THE 33RD WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Monday; November 16th

1st Reading: Revelation 1:1-4; 2:1-5
Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6
Those who are victorious I will feed from the tree of life.
Gospel: Luke 18:35-43

Tuesday; November 17th

Memorial of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious

1st Reading: Revelation 3:1-6, 14-22
Psalm 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5
I will seat the victor beside me on my throne.
Gospel: *Luke 19:1-10*

Wednesday; November 18th

1st Reading: Revelation 4:1-11
Psalm 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6
Holy, holy, holy Lord, mighty God!
Gospel: Luke 19:11-28

Thursday; November 19th

1st Reading: Revelation 5:1-10
Psalm 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6b, 9b
The Lamb has made us a kingdom of priests to serve our God.
Gospel: Luke 19:41-44

Friday; November 20th

1st Reading: Revelation 10:8-11
Psalm 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131
How sweet to my taste is your promise!
Gospel: Luke 19:45-48

Saturday; Nov. 21st

Memorial of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

1st Reading: Revelation 11:4-12
Psalm 144:1, 2, 9-10
Blessed be the Lord, my Rock!
Gospel: Luke 20:27-40

Sunday; November 22nd

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

1st Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17
Psalm 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6
The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28
Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

MEDITATION OF THE DAY

Sharing the Master's Joy

The thought that actions otherwise worthless in themselves could be somehow redemptive, *could serve the growth of God's kingdom upon earth because they were undertaken in obedience to his will…sustained me in joy and drove me on to work ever harder to achieve more perfect communion with God and his will….*



"The ultimate 'joy of the saints' comes in knowing that the Savior pleads their cause, 'and no one can conceive of the joy which [will fill] our souls [as] we [hear Jesus] pray for us unto the Father.'"
D. Todd Christofferson

In this subtle insight of the soul touched by God's divine power lies the root of true interior joy. *And as long as this vision persists, as long as the soul does not lose sight of this great truth, the inner joy and peace that follow upon it persist through even the saddest and gravest moments of human trial and suffering. Pain and suffering do not thereby cease to exist; the ache and anguish of body and soul do not vanish from man's consciousness. But even they become a means of nourishing this joy, of fostering peace and conformity to God's will, for they are seen as a continuation of Christ's Passion…as purposeful, redemptive, healing acts by which the world is reconciled to the will of the Father….*

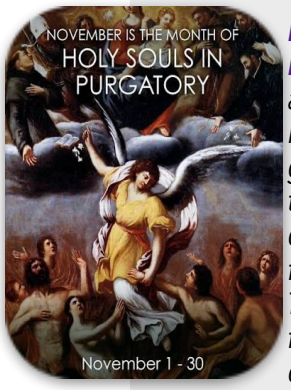
Consoling as conformity to the will of God may be for the soul, *as productive of peace and joy as it may prove, it cannot be gained simply for the asking…. For my part, at any rate, I learned it only through the constant practice of prayer, by trying to live always in the presence of God, by trying to see all things as a manifestation of his divine will…. I had continuously to learn to accept God's will–not as I wished it to be, not as it might have been, but as it actually was at the moment. And it was through the struggle to do this that spiritual growth & a greater appreciation of his will took place..*

If I wanted to preserve my interior peace and joy I had to have constant recourse to prayer, *to the eyes of faith, to a humility that could make me aware of how little my own efforts meant and how dependent I was upon God's grace even for prayer and faith itself.*— Father Walter J. Ciszek, S.J.

Father Ciszek († 1984) was an American Jesuit missionary convicted of being a "Vatican Spy" in World War II. He spent twenty-three years in Soviet prisons. / From He Leadeth Me. © 1973, Fr. Walter J. Ciszek, s.j., Ignatius Press, San Francisco, CA. www.ignatius.com.

Excerpt from Magnificat Magazine, Meditation of the Day, November 15, 2026

HOMILY NOTES



Noviembre está dedicado a las almas del purgatorio. *La transición de los tonos vibrantes del otoño a la llegada del invierno posee un significado sagrado en la tradición católica. A medida que caen las hojas y los días se acortan, se nos recuerda que toda vida terrenal llega a su fin; la atención se desplaza entonces hacia la profunda y solemne devoción por las Benditas Almas del Purgatorio, quienes no pueden orar por sí mismas y, por tanto, ¡dependen de cada uno de nosotros!*

El Catecismo enseña: «Todos los que mueren en la gracia y en la amistad de Dios, pero imperfectamente purificados, aunque están seguros de su eterna salvación, sufren después de su muerte una purificación, a fin de obtener la santidad necesaria para entrar en la alegría del cielo».(CCC 1030)

Las almas que atraviesan esta purificación conforman la Iglesia Padeciente y son parte de la «comunión de los santos». Habiendo concluido su vida en la tierra y su oportunidad de reparar sus pecados, ya no pueden obtener mérito espiritual alguno. Ahora dependen totalmente de las oraciones y la generosidad de la Iglesia Militante: nosotros, que aún permanecemos en la tierra librando la batalla contra el mundo, la carne y el demonio. Por esta razón, a menudo nos referimos a ellas como las «benditas almas» (o «pobres almas»). En el Purgatorio, no hay nada que puedan hacer para aliviar su propio sufrimiento ni el de las otras almas que allí se encuentran.

5 formas de crecer en devoción por las almas del purgatorio

1. *Ofrece sacrificios por las almas necesitadas, ya sea mandando celebrar una Misa por ellas o rezando el Rosario, una novena o la Coronilla de la Divina Misericordia.*
2. *Como actividad familiar, los niños pueden ayudar a elaborar un cartel con los nombres de todos los difuntos. Podemos colocarlo en un lugar visible para que, a lo largo del mes de noviembre, nuestra familia recuerde rezar por nuestros seres queridos.*
3. *Aprende más sobre el Purgatorio leyendo el Catecismo y otros escritos de los santos.*
4. *Conversen en familia sobre la muerte, la preparación para ella, los funerales y sepelios católicos, y el sacramento de la unción de los enfermos.*
5. *Acudamos a la confesión con regularidad para asegurarnos de estar siempre en estado de gracia, de modo que podamos obtener una indulgencia para un alma necesitada y velar por la nuestra propia.*

¡Por favor, oren este mes por las benditas almas del Purgatorio!
Las almas que atraviesan este proceso de purificación conforman la Iglesia purgante y forman parte de la «comunión de los santos». Habiendo concluido su vida en la tierra y su oportunidad de reparar sus pecados, ya no pueden obtener ningún mérito espiritual.
Ahora dependen por completo de las oraciones y la generosidad de la Iglesia militante: aquellos de nosotros que aún estamos en la tierra librando la batalla contra el mundo, la carne y el diablo. Por eso, a menudo nos referimos a ellas como las «almas benditas» [o «almas pobres»]. En el Purgatorio, no pueden hacer nada para aliviar su propio sufrimiento ni el de las otras almas que allí se encuentran.
Nos encontramos en una situación única: nuestros méritos aquí en la tierra pueden ayudar a las almas benditas si ofrecemos intencionalmente a Dios nuestras oraciones, buenas obras, sacrificios —y, de manera especial, el Santo Sacrificio de la Misa— para su alivio. Por este motivo, la Iglesia nos dedica el mes de noviembre para profundizar en el vínculo existente entre los vivos y los fieles difuntos, y para acrecentar nuestra devoción hacia estas almas que dependen de nosotros para alcanzar el Cielo.

November is devoted to the Holy Souls in Purgatory. *The transition from the vibrant hues of autumn to the onset of winter holds a sacred significance in the Catholic tradition. As the leaves fall and the days grow shorter, we are reminded that all earthly life comes to an end, the focus shifts to the profound & solemn devotion to the Holy Souls of Purgatory who cannot pray for themselves and therefore rely on each of us!*

The Catechism teaches: "All who die in God's grace and friendship but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death, they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven."(CCC 1030)

The souls undergoing this purification make up the Church Suffering and are a part of the "communion of saints." Having completed their life on earth and their opportunity to make reparation for their sins, they are no longer able to gain any spiritual merit. They are now completely dependent upon the prayers and generosity of The Church Militant – those of us still on earth fighting the battle against the world, the flesh, and the devil. This is why we often refer to them as the poor souls. In Purgatory, there is nothing they can do to alleviate their own suffering or the suffering of other souls there with them.

5 Ways to Grow in Devotion to the Poor Souls

1. *Make sacrifices for the poor souls by having a Mass said for them or praying a Rosary, a novena, or the Divine Mercy Chaplet.*
2. *As a family activity, the children can help make a poster listing all the dearly departed. We can put this on display so our family can be reminded to pray for our loved ones throughout November.*
3. *Learn more about Purgatory by reading the Catechism and other writings of the saints.*
4. *Have family discussions about death, preparing for death, Catholic funerals and burials, and the Sacrament of the Sick.*
5. *Go to Confession regularly to make sure we are always in a state of grace so we can gain an indulgence for a poor soul and take care of our own.*

Please pray for the Holy Souls in Purgatory This Month!
The souls undergoing this purification make up the Church Suffering and are a part of the "communion of saints." Having completed their life on earth and their opportunity to make reparation for their sins, they are no longer able to gain any spiritual merit.
They are now completely dependent upon the prayers and generosity of The Church Militant – those of us still on earth fighting the battle against the world, the flesh, and the devil. This is why we often refer to them as the poor souls. In Purgatory, there is nothing they can do to alleviate their own suffering or the suffering of other souls there with them.
We are in a unique position in that our merits here on earth can assist the holy souls if we intentionally offer to God our prayers, good works, sacrifices, and especially the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for their relief. For this reason, the Church gives us the month of November to explore the profound connection between the living and the faithful departed and to increase our devotion to these souls who depend on us to get them to Heaven.

Source: https://covenantcatholic.org/devotion-of-the-month/november-dedicated-to-the-poor-souls/

ADORATION

Friday; Nov. 20 | Follows 830A Mass

MEN'S MINISTRY

Friday; Nov. 20 | 930A | Church Hall Mtg Rm.

ATTENTION WOMEN OF ST. THOMAS MORE

SAVE THESE DATES: February 5,6 & 7 for the STM Women's Parish Retreat at Christ the King Retreat Center.

Questions? Call Cathy Keesling: 530-828-0278 or Cheryl Barron: 530-514-8859 for more info.

Be sure to watch the STM Bulletin for details!





HELP! 20 Couples Needed NOW to Make This Workshop Happen!

A powerful couples workshop is now available to St. Thomas More parishioners. Your participation matters — in fact, its critical — not only for your own relationship, but for building a parish community where couples encourage, support, and grow together. We need at minimum 20 couples to participate. Please sign up, invite other couples to join you and let's make this experience possible! Questions? See Sandra Rodriquez or Father Chuck. Sign up now for **Navigating Us** using the QR code below!

ST. THOMAS MORE
767 Elliott Rd. Paradise, CA 95969
(La escuela)
13 NOV | 7-9 P. M.
14 NOV | 10 A. M. - 2 P. M.
15 NOV | 10 A. M. - 12 P. M.

LIVE THE LIFE
STRENGTHENING MARRIAGES AND FAMILIES

¡Necesitamos al menos 20 parejas para poder llevar a cabo este taller!

Su participación es importante, no solo para fortalecer su propia relación, sino también para construir una comunidad parroquial donde las parejas se animan, se apoyan y puedan crecer juntas. ¡Inviten a otra pareja a participar y juntos ayudemos a hacer posible esta experiencia!

¡Inscríbanse hoy a Navigating Us!

Operation Christmas Child Needs Your Help

Our parish is partnering with Samaritan's Purse to deliver Christmas Shoe Boxes to children around the world to bring them the joy and knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Please take a shoe box and follow the instructions inside. Thanks on behalf of the kids!

Meets Thursday at 130P in the Parish Hall Mtg Room

The weekly women's Bible study is studying the gospel of Mathew. Questions? Call Gail Crowley (530) 570-8474. All ladies are welcome!

Please Note These Important Dates

Sunday, Nov. 22 - Christ the King Sunday
Masses: 1030A English | 1230P Spanish

Thursday, Nov. 26 Thanksgiving Day Mass 10A

Sunday, Nov. 29 - 1st Sunday of Advent
Masses: 1030A English | 1230P Spanish

Tuesday, Dec. 8 - Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Masses: 830A English | 6P Bilingual
Note: Potluck follows the 6P Bilingual Mass