

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*

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 *Jeremiah 17:5-8*

Psalm *Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6*

*Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.
Dichoso el hombre que confía en el Señor.*

2nd Reading *1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20*

Gospel *Luke 6:17, 20-26*

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 16TH

<i>Sunday; Feb.16</i>	<i>Doris Donaldson †</i>	<i>1030A</i>
<i>Domingo; 16 feb.</i>	<i>Intentions of Frankie Rivera on his birthday</i>	<i>1230P español</i>
<i>Tuesday; Feb. 18</i>	<i>Intentions of Art & Kathy Sanchez</i>	<i>6P</i>
<i>Wed.; Feb. 19</i>	<i>Intentions of Gema Real</i>	<i>830A</i>
<i>Thurs.; Feb. 20</i>	<i>Intentions of Gema Real</i>	<i>830A</i>
<i>Friday; Feb. 21</i>	<i>Jim Brown † David Ferree †</i>	<i>830A</i>

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR

*Eduardo Dominguez
Raul Saavedra*

*Barbara Maldonado
Samia Zumout
Chris Rehmann
Helvia Saavedra*

*Elaine Little
Ron Keyes*

FEBRUARY INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS

*For vocations to the priesthood and religious life
Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.*

INTENCIONES DE FEBRERO DEL PAPA FRANCISCO

*Para vocaciones al sacerdocio y a la vida religiosa
Oremos para que la comunidad eclesial acoja los anhelos y las dudas de aquellos jóvenes que sienten el llamado a servir la misión de Cristo en el sacerdocio y la vida religiosa.*

This Week's Readings

SIXTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Monday; February 17th

1st Reading: Genesis 4:1-15, 25
Psalm 50:1,8, 16bc-17, 20-21
Offer to God a sacrifice of praise.
Gospel: Mark 8:11-13

Tuesday; February 18th

1st Reading: Genesis 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10
Psalm 29:1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b & 9c-10
The Lord will bless his people with peace.
Gospel: Mark 8:14-21

Wednesday; February 19th

1st Reading: Genesis 8:6-13, 20-22
Psalm 116:12-13, 14-15, 18-19
To you, Lord, I will offer a sacrifice of praise.
Gospel: Mark 8:22-26

Thursday; February 20th

1st Reading: Genesis 9:1-13
Psalm 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 and 22-23
From heaven the Lord looks down on the earth.
Gospel: Mark 8:27-33

Friday; February 21st

1st Reading: Genesis 11:1-9
Psalm 33:10-11, 12-13, 14-15
Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.
Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1

Saturday; February 22nd FEAST OF THE CHAIR OF SAINT PETER, APOSTLE

1st Reading: 1 Peter 5:1-4
Psalm 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6
The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Gospel: Matthew 16:13-19

MEDITATION OF THE DAY

Blessed in God



Here is a thought: I love God and am loved by him; he consoles in all the afflictions of life, while the love of creatures consoles very little and is often the beginning of the greatest sufferings. Commit yourself, then, to give your heart to the love of Jesus, with a great and constant desire to be totally filled by him and totally aflame with his divine fire....

One loves God because all good is found in this Good alone. There one finds the complete fulfillment of mind and heart, and there is nothing left to be desired: "Give me your love, my God," said Saint Ignatius, "and this is enough for me."

With all knowledge, one can still be unhappy; with God's love, one is always happy, and the most ignorant of men who knows how to love God is worth more than the learned who don't love him. You tell me you don't feel God's love in your heart. But don't you know that he is our Father who has created us and redeemed us through his Son's Passion and Death, and who generously and with full hands bestows graces on us and loves us with an infinite love?...

Let us beg the Lord to take everything away from us except his pure love; then we will be happy & will willingly give up everything for love of Him. Leaving us his love, he will leave us everything we want. His pure love is everything for us, everything else is nothing. The very immortality of our soul would be nothing for us if his holy love were not given to us through it. O good God, make us love you as much as you deserve to be loved.

—BLESSED CLELIA MERLONI

Blessed Clelia Merloni († 1930) founded the Congregation of the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in 1894. / From Spiritual Anthology: Elements in the Spirituality of Mother Clelia Merloni, Sr. M. Clare Millea, tr. © 1992, Edusc Sacred Heart University Press, Bauru, São Paulo, Brazil.

Excerpt from Magnificat Magazine, Meditation of the Day, February 16, 2025



The Secular Franciscans will host their annual Saturday, March 8, 11A to 3P. This family fun event is a key fundraiser for the Franciscans because proceeds raised go to St. Vincent de Paul and this, in turn, enables SVdP to continue their critical work helping people here on the Ridge. Please support the Secular Franciscans by buying your Games Day ticket after Mass today or next Sunday.

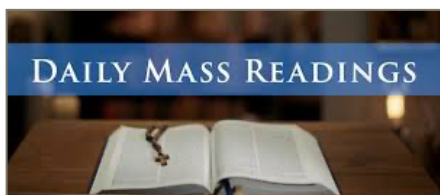
This family fun event features not only lots of games but food, prizes, and a silent auction. It will be held in the Hall. Tickets are on sale now.

As for me, I'll be at the Scrabble table. Are you game? See you there!

G, A, M, E, S
D, A, Y

HOMILY NOTES

Four horizontal lines for writing homily notes, with decorative flourishes at the bottom corners.



¡Bienvenidos a febrero! Este mes está dedicado a la Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María y José, modelo de virtud para todos los hogares cristianos. Esta devoción comenzó en el siglo XVII casi

simultáneamente en Canadá y Francia: la Asociación de la Sagrada Familia, fundada en Montreal en 1663; Las Hijas de la Sagrada Familia en París en 1674. En 1893 el Papa León XIII expresó su aprobación de una fiesta y compuso parte del Oficio.

IMITACIÓN de la Sagrada Familia

La Sagrada Familia nos modela lo que la vida familiar debería ejemplificar. Es una escuela de virtud tanto para padres como para hijos. Allí encontramos a Dios y aprendemos cómo conectarnos con Dios y con los demás. La familia es donde el amor se da gratuitamente y sin interés propio. Es donde aprendemos a amar, a orar, y practicar el don de la caridad. El Papa Juan Pablo II ha dicho: "La familia, más que cualquier otra realidad humana, es el lugar en el que persona es amada por sí misma y en la que aprende a vivir la sincera don de sí" (27 de noviembre de 2002).

Deberíamos preguntarnos si nuestras propias familias modelan la de la Sagrada Familia. Necesitamos estar abiertos a la gracia de Dios para valorar lo positivo, aceptar nuestros errores y estar dispuestos a rectificarlos. La crianza de los hijos es una responsabilidad muy desafiante, aunque a veces se cometen errores a pesar de las mejores intenciones. Al reconocer esto, los niños deben confiar en sus padres y nunca olvidar que los padres sólo quieren lo mejor para ellos.

Esto nos lleva a la que quizás sea la virtud familiar más importante: el perdón. Vivir tan íntimamente dentro del núcleo familiar naturalmente da lugar a situaciones desagradables en las que alguien puede sentirse ofendido. San Pablo lo sabía cuando nos dijo que "soportáramos y perdonáramos unos a otros". La salud de nuestra familia puede depender de qué tan rápido aprendamos a perdonar sin albergar sentimientos de resentimiento.

Ninguna familia puede prosperar y crecer sin un trabajo constante. Incluso los detalles materiales que requieren tiempo y esfuerzo son esenciales para mantener fuerte a la familia. Todos tenemos que trabajar juntos por el bien de la familia, incluso hasta el punto de anteponer a nuestras propias necesidades y ambiciones la felicidad de otros miembros de la familia, dejando de lado nuestros propios deseos egoístas.

También es importante rezar en familia, especialmente el santo rosario. La oración nos ayuda a intensificar nuestra cercanía unos con otros y aprender a perdonar; por lo que es imprescindible descubrir la relación entre la Eucaristía y la vida familiar. El Papa Juan Pablo II escribió: "En el don eucarístico de la caridad la familia cristiana encuentra el fundamento y el alma de su comunión y su misión". (Carta sobre la Familia, núm. 57). – Extraído de La Sagrada Familia modela lo que debería ser la vida familiar, Arzobispo Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap.

FUENTE y Fuente de oración: https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/overviews/months/02_1.cfm



Welcome to February! This month is dedicated to the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph – the model of virtue for all Christian households. This devotion began in the 17th

century almost simultaneously in Canada & France: the Association of the Holy Family, founded in Montreal in 1663; The

Daughters of the Holy Family in Paris in 1674. In 1893 Pope Leo XIII expressed his approval of a feast and composed part of the Office.

IMITATING the Holy Family

The Holy Family models for us what family life should exemplify. It is a school of virtue for both parents and children. There we find God & learn how to connect with God and others. The family is where love is freely given without self-interest. It is where we learn to love, to pray, and to practice the gift of charity. Pope John Paul II said, "The family, more than any other human reality, is the place in which the person is loved for himself and in which he learns to live the sincere gift of self" (Nov. 27, 2002). We should ask ourselves if our own families model that of the Holy Family. We need to be open to God's grace to value the positive, to accept our mistakes, and to be willing to rectify them. Parenting is a very challenging responsibility and at times errors are made despite the best intentions. Even so, children should trust their parents and never forget that parents want only what is best for them.

This leads us to perhaps the most important family virtue – forgiveness. Living so intimately within the family nucleus naturally gives rise to unpleasant situations where someone is apt to be offended. St. Paul knew this when he told us to "bear with and forgive one another." The health of our family may depend on how quickly we learn to forgive without harboring feelings of resentment.

No family can thrive & grow without constant work. Even the material details that take time & effort are essential to keeping the family strong. Everyone has to pull together for the good of the family – even to the point of putting ahead of our own needs and ambitions the happiness of other family members, setting aside our own selfish desires.

It is also important to pray as a family, especially the holy rosary. Prayer helps us intensify our closeness with each other and learn to forgive; making it essential to discover the relationship between the Eucharist and family life. Pope John Paul II wrote, "In the eucharistic gift of charity the Christian family finds the foundation & soul of its communion and its mission" (Letter on the Family, No. 57). – Excerpted from The Holy Family models what family life should be, Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap.

Source: https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/overviews/months/02_1.cfm



MEN! TIME TO SEEK, RENEW, REFRESH, & REINFORCE TRUST

The Men's Retreat at Christ the King Retreat Center is almost here! Fri., Feb. 28 to Sunday

March 2. Signups are now open. St. Paul reminds us to trust in the God of Hope. A retreat is a great

way to help you reinforce that trust. You won't want to miss this year's topic "Creating the Hope We Seek: The Sacredness of Everyday Life". You'll leave with faith renewed and a better perspective on job, family and life. A great spiritual bargain! Pick up an info sheet in the narthex. Register online at <https://christthekingretreatcenter.org/> or by mail. **Questions? See retreat leader Deacon Gary Zellmer.**

Our Friends from Bethlehem Are

HERE TODAY! Be sure to take a look at their olive wood figures. They're beautiful & our purchases support Catholics in Bethlehem as they struggle to make a living in these trying times of war. Welcome Sam and his wife who have brought these artifacts and will speak at Mass.

Prayer Blanket/ Prayer Shawl Ministry

What is a Prayer Blanket or Prayer Shawl? These are small lap blankets that are sewn, knitted, or crocheted by group members and prayed over by the maker during construction. Once completed, they are then blessed by the priest or a deacon before being given away.

These prayer blankets/shawls are meant to bring comfort, a sense of peace, and love to the recipient, and to let them know we are praying for them.

Who is eligible to receive a blanket or shawl? Adults or children with physical or emotional illness, living with a chronic condition or in treatment for a life-threatening illness, those experiencing a crisis such as the loss of a loved one, loss of job, or relationship crisis.

Where does this Ministry Meet? Beginning Friday, March 7th, we will meet in the small side hall; on the 1st & 3rd Fridays each month, 9:30a to 3p. You are welcome to join us!

Donations of sewing materials, batting or notions is deeply appreciated.

Questions? Contact Donna Helgeson 530.282.2132 or email dhelg66@gmail.com



E.M. Donna Helgeson took Holy Communion to Marian in Paradise who also received a quilt from the Shawl Ministry as a sign of love and connection to our Church family.



Valentine's Day Breakfast TODAY After Both Masses!

The St. Thomas More Knights of Columbus will serve pancakes, eggs, sausage after both Masses today. **Cost:** \$10 per person, \$30 per family. **Proceeds** go toward purchasing the new stage for our new hall. **Tickets on sale now!** After both Masses.



Ladies! Join us Thurs., March 13 for the C.O.N.T.R.O.L. Program
NOTE NEW START DATE MARCH 13!

This is a six-week structured course designed specifically for Catholic women to help improve life management skills by addressing the unique challenges women often face.

Through the use of prayer, scripture, and virtues, this program is designed to look at seven aspects of daily life including time management, financial responsibilities, household organization under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Your six-week Lenten journey begins Thursday, March 13 at 930A to 11A, and continues March 20, 27 & April 3, 10, 24. We'll meet in the small side room of the Hall. Snacks and coffee will be provided. Cost is \$20.00 for supplies.

Questions and/or registration please contact Donna Helgeson at (530) 282-2132 or by email at dhelg66@gmail.com.

ABOUT THE INSERT: Living the Jubilee / Theme 1: To See God

The insert in today's bulletin is a "reflection aid" for the 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope. When Pope Francis opened the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica, he officially ushered in the widely-anticipated **2025 Jubilee Year of Hope**. During his evening Christmas Mass he reassured us that the Christ Child of Bethlehem offers the world infinite hope and joy. So, one of the ways to live the Jubilee year is to reflect upon the three themes for the Jubilee introduced by Bishop Soto:

1. **To See God;**
2. **To Be Living Stones in His Temple, and**
3. **To Unite All Creation in Christ.**

To help you focus on these themes we will target one per quarter and provide a reflection aid in the bulletin as we did today. Pope Francis calls us *Pilgrims of Hope* and as such you & your family are encouraged to live the Jubilee throughout 2025. Hopefully you will find time in your busy schedule to reflect on our first theme, To See God, inspired by the scripture passage from 1 John 3:2-3, "We shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Everyone who has this hope based on him makes himself pure as he is pure."

During the Holy Year, may the light of Christian hope illumine every man and woman, as a message of God's love addressed to all! And may the Church bear faithful witness to this message in every part of the world!" —Pope Francis

Secular Franciscans **GAMES DAY! Sat., March 8**

PRIZES Silent AUCTION Food Tickets on sale NOW!



begins Wed., March 5. Please bring last year's palm branches & place in basket in Narthex.