

# 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** *Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18*

**Psalm** *Psalm 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14*

*The Lord is my light and my salvation.*

*El Señor es mi luz y mi salvación.*

**2nd Reading** *Philippians 3:17-4:1 or 3:20-4:1*

**Gospel** *Luke 9:28b-36*

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 16<sup>TH</sup>

<i>Sunday; March 16</i>	<i>Carol Zellmer † Matthew Restelli †</i>	<i>1030A</i>
<i>Domingo 16 marzo</i>	<i>Emily Torres (Cumpleaños) Arminda Rodriguez (Cumpleaños)</i>	<i>1230P español</i>
<i>Tuesday; March 18</i>	<i>Abel Holguin Chavez †</i>	<i>6P</i>
<i>Wed.; March 19</i>	<i>Intentions of Nick Brown Deon Mangan (on her birthday)</i>	<i>830A</i>
<i>Thurs.; March 20</i>	<i>Gema Real</i>	<i>830A</i>
<i>Friday; March 21</i>	<i>Gregorio Balladares †</i>	<i>830A</i>

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR

*Kimberly Steffen-Parkney  
Raul Saavedra  
Jose Raul Rivera  
Mary Anne Durant*

*Greg DeCristofaro  
Samia Zumout  
Chris Rehmann  
Helvia Saavedra*

*Elaine Little  
Ron Keyes  
Theresa Durant  
Arianna Ospina*



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

## MARCH INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS

**For families in crisis**

*Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences*

## INTENCIONES DE MARZO DEL PAPA FRANCISCO

**Para familias en crisis**

*Oremos para que las familias rotas descubran la cura de sus heridas a través del perdón, redescubriendo los dones de cada uno, incluso en sus diferencias.*

## This Week's Readings

## THE SECOND WEEK OF LENT

**Monday; March 17<sup>th</sup>**

1st Reading: Daniel 9:4b-10

Psalm 79:8, 9, 11 and 13

*Lord, do not deal with us according to our sins.*

Gospel: Luke 6:36-38

**Tuesday; March 18<sup>th</sup>**

1st Reading: Isaiah 1:10, 16-20

Psalm 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23

*To the upright I will show the saving power of God.*

Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12

**Wednesday; March 19<sup>th</sup>**SOLEMNITY OF SAINT  
JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE  
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16

Psalm 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29

*The son of David will live for ever.*

2nd Reading: Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22

Gospel: Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a or

Luke 2:41-51a

**Thursday; March 20<sup>th</sup>**

1st Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-10

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

*Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.*

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

**Friday; March 21<sup>st</sup>**

1st Reading: Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a

Psalm 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21

*Remember the marvels the Lord has done.*

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46

**Saturday; March 22<sup>nd</sup>**

1st Reading: Micah 7:14-15, 18-20

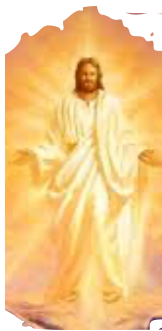
Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12

*The Lord is kind and merciful.*

Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

## MEDITATION OF THE DAY

## The Grace of the Transfiguration

**Those who are skilled in sports delight in the spectators'**

**applause**, and they are spurred on by the hopes of prizes to struggle for the victory appropriate to them. But those who long to gain divine blessings, and who thirst to share in the hope promised to the saints, gladly enter the contests that are centered on devotion to Christ. ... They call to mind blessed Paul, who wrote, the sufferings of the present time are worth nothing, compared with the glory that will be revealed in our case.

**Come, then, gaze on our Lord Jesus Christ**, once again taking such beautifully practical steps to benefit and build up his holy apostles. For he said to them, *If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his own cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for my sake, will find it. The command is a life-giving one, fitting for holy people, and a help towards the glory that is above, creating in us the gladness of heart that leads to final enjoyment. For to choose to suffer for Christ's sake is never without its reward, but rather it procures us a share in glory. But since the disciples had not yet received the power from on high (Lk 24:49), it was likely, perhaps, that they would fall victim to human weakness, and get the idea of saying something like this among themselves: "How could one deny himself? Or how, if one loses one's life, will one find it again? What reward would be commensurate to this loss?"*

**How, then, did he allow those who had received this promise to gaze on this wonder?** He led three, whom he had specially chosen from among them all, up the mountain, and then was transfigured into an incomparable, godlike brilliance, so that his clothing seemed to glow with the light that had been supplied to it. Then Moses and Elijah, standing next to Jesus, conversed with him about his exodus, which he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem, that is, the mystery of his fleshly Incarnation, and of his saving Passion, which took place on the precious cross. For it is true...that for the well-being and life of all of us he would not refuse to suffer death on a cross. —SAINT CYRIL OF ALEXANDRIA

Saint Cyril of Alexandria († 444) was an eminent figure of ancient Christian literature and a valiant defender of the faith. / From *Light on the Mountain: Greek Patristic and Byzantine Homilies on the Transfiguration of the Lord*, Brian E. Daley, s.j., tr. © 2013, St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, Yonkers, NY. Excerpt from *Magnificat Magazine*, Meditation of the Day, March 16, 2025

## HOMILY NOTES

Lent

fast • give • pray

**El mes de marzo está dedicado a San José** debido a su solemnidad, el 19 de marzo. Sobre este gran santo, padre adoptivo de Cristo, el Papa León XIII dijo: «Es de suma importancia que los cristianos, al honrar a la Virgen Madre de Dios, invoquen constantemente con profunda piedad y confianza a su castísimo esposo, San José. Tenemos la firme convicción de que tal es el deseo especial de la misma Santísima Virgen».



**The month of March is devoted to Saint Joseph** due to the Solemnity of St. Joseph on March 19. About this great saint, the foster father of Christ, Pope Leo XIII said, "It greatly behooves Christians, while honoring the Virgin Mother of God, constantly to invoke with deep piety and confidence her most chaste spouse, St. Joseph. We have a well grounded conviction that such is the special desire of the Blessed Virgin herself."

### ORACIÓN POR LA INTERCESIÓN DE SAN JOSÉ POR NUESTRO TRABAJO

Oh José, virgen padre de Jesús, purísimo esposo de la Virgen María, ruega cada día por nosotros al mismo Jesús, Hijo de Dios, para que, defendidos por el poder de su gracia y esforzándonos debidamente en la vida, seamos coronados por Él en la hora de la muerte.

Glorioso San José, modelo de todos los que se dedican al trabajo, concédeme la gracia de trabajar con espíritu de penitencia, para expiar así mis muchos pecados; de trabajar con conciencia, anteponiendo la devoción al deber a mis propias inclinaciones; de trabajar con agradecimiento y alegría, considerando un honor emplear y desarrollar, mediante mi trabajo, los dones que he recibido de Dios Todopoderoso; de trabajar con orden, paz, moderación y paciencia, sin rehuir jamás el cansancio ni las dificultades; de trabajar sobre todo con pura intención y desprendimiento de mí mismo, teniendo siempre ante los ojos la hora de la muerte y la rendición de cuentas que entonces debo rendir por el tiempo mal empleado, los talentos desaprovechados, el bien desperdiciado y mi vano orgullo por el éxito, tan fatal para la obra de Dios. ¡Todo por Jesús, todo por María, todo a imitación tuya, oh Patriarca José! Este será mi lema en la vida y en la muerte. Amén.

**FUENTE y Fuente de oración:** <https://catholicgentleman.com/2022/03/st-joseph-the-model-of-manhood/>; <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/view.cfm?id=755>

Libro de Oración, por el Reverendo John P. O'Connell, M.A., S.T.D. y Jex Martin, M.A., The Catholic Press, Inc., Chicago, Illinois, 1954

### PRAYER FOR THE INTERCESSION OF ST. JOSEPH FOR OUR WORK

O Joseph, virgin-father of Jesus, most pure spouse of the Virgin Mary, pray every day for us to the same Jesus, the Son of God, that we, being defended by the power of His grace and striving dutifully in life, may be crowned by Him at the hour of death.

Glorious Saint Joseph, pattern of all who are devoted to toil, obtain for me the grace to toil in the spirit of penance, in order thereby to atone for my many sins; to toil conscientiously, putting devotion to duty before my own inclinations; to labor with thankfulness and joy, deeming it an honor to employ and to develop, by my labor, the gifts I have received from Almighty God; to work with order, peace, moderation, and patience, without ever shrinking from weariness and difficulties; to work above all with a pure intention and with detachment from self, having always before my eyes the hour of death and the accounting which I must then render of time ill-spent, of talents unemployed, of good undone, and of my empty pride in success, which is so fatal to the work of God. All for Jesus, all through Mary, all in imitation of thee, O Patriarch Joseph! This shall be my motto in life and in death. Amen.

**Sources:** <https://catholicgentleman.com/2022/03/st-joseph-the-model-of-manhood/>; <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/view.cfm?id=755>

**Prayer Source:** Prayer Book, The by Reverend John P. O'Connell, M.A., S.T.D. and Jex Martin, M.A., The Catholic Press, Inc., Chicago, Illinois, 1954




With great sadness Susan Oliver and The Women of STM group announce the passing of our friend Barbara Maldonado. Funeral services are to be determined.

# 40 DAYS FOR LIFE

THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF ABORTION.



## Please Join Our Prayer Campaign

40 Days for Life, an internationally coordinated 40-day campaign to end abortion locally through prayer, fasting, community outreach, and peaceful all-day vigils outside abortion businesses, invites every STM parishioner to join us in praying to end abortion. We started praying Ash Wednesday, March 5, and will continue throughout the year. There's no greater way to focus on repentance during Lent than to pray to end abortion in California. **Questions?** Contact parish coordinators for ProLife Kathy or Greg DeCristofaro at [worshipworks@att.net](mailto:worshipworks@att.net) or 530-873-4132.



### WILL YOU HELP K<sup>o</sup>FC 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.



### St. Vincent de Paul Actions Report for 4Q24

The STM St. Vincent de Paul team continues to make a difference in the lives of our neighbors here on the Ridge. During the 4th quarter of 2024 (Oct.-Dec.) SVdP helped 30 people in our community who were facing various negative impacts to their wellbeing. Adverse impacts included threats of eviction, utility and/or water shut-off warnings, no propane for heating or cooking, or not having enough money for rent, food, or clothing. Our SVdP team responded to these 30 souls with \$3,550.39 in financial support, along with 13 gift cards to help with food, gas, and clothing needs. These funds & gift cards were allocated according to the need of each person. The team also helped an additional 70 people find the services they needed thru referrals to various support agencies in the area. The STM SVdP team deeply appreciates St. Thomas More parishioners for their generosity. It is this generosity that enables the team to help our neighbors navigate tough situations with dignity. Thank you.

### NEW CLAIRVAUX WINE FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT 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.

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

**Questions?** See Jim Collins after Mass.

## Meeting/Event Reminders

- The Prayer Blanket/Shawl Ministry meets 1st & 3rd Friday's every month, 930A to 3P, in the small Hall. **Questions?** Contact Donna Helgeson 530.282.2132 or [dhelg66@gmail.com](mailto:dhelg66@gmail.com)
- The C.O.N.T.R.O.L Life Management Program for Catholic women meets for the next 7 weeks (thru April 17) on Thursdays, 930A to 11A, in the small Hall. **Questions?** Contact Donna Helgeson 530.282.2132 or [dhelg66@gmail.com](mailto:dhelg66@gmail.com)
- 24 Hrs for the Lord, noon, Fri., March 28 until noon, Sat., March 29. Continuous Confessions at St. Isidore, 222 Clark Ave., Yuba City.

**How about 8Days/7Nights in Maui?** The St. Vincent de Paul annual fundraiser offers a chance for two to fly to Maui + car rental & \$500 cash up to \$1,000 for two. Tickets are just \$10 each. Aloha!



## Memorial Wall Tiles Available for a Limited Time!


**STM Parish Memorial Wall Tile Campaign ends March 31.**

**Get your tile order in soon!** Jim & Barbara Collins will be available after the 1030a & 1230p Mass each Sunday in March to accept your tile design and payment (cash, check, or credit card) so that your tile may be displayed on the Memorial Wall. Jim & Barbara can also help with the design of your tile.

Help in Spanish will be available after the 1230p Mass.

**Questions?** Go to [https://stmparadise.org/sites/stmparadise/files/tile\\_ideas\\_120524.pdf](https://stmparadise.org/sites/stmparadise/files/tile_ideas_120524.pdf) for the forms and more info. You can also talk to Jim and Barbara Collins after Mass.

## Jubilee Year | 24Hrs For the Lord | Pilgrims of Hope



Last Sunday, Father Chuck talked about 24 Hours for the Lord, which will be celebrated throughout the Diocese beginning noon, Friday, March 28 until noon, Saturday, March 29. At key sites, every Deanery in the Diocese will offer 24 hours of continuous confession. Our Deanery has designated St. Isidore Parish in Yuba City as our pilgrimage site. All STM parishioners are encouraged to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation by making a pilgrimage to St. Isidore, 222 Clark Ave., Yuba City, CA. 95991, beginning at noon on Fri. March 28 until noon on Sat. March 29. Let us know if you need a ride.