

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH


www.stmparadise.org

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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 Bilingual

Wednesday, Thurs., & Friday 830A

Sunday Readings

1st Reading Malachi 3:19-20a**Psalm** 98:5-6, 7-8, 9

The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.

Toda la tierra ha visto al Salvador.

2nd Reading 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12**Gospel** Luke 21:5-19

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 16TH

Sunday; November 16	For All the Faithful Departed †	1030A
Domingo; 16 de Noviembre	Por Todos los Feles Difuntos †	1230P español
Tues.; November 18	For All the Faithful Departed †	6P
Wed.; November 19	For All the Faithful Departed †	830A
Thurs.; November 20	For All the Faithful Departed †	830A
Friday; November 21	For All the Faithful Departed †	830A

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR

Rod Montgomery
Raul Saavedra
Jose Raul Rivera
Mary Anne Durant
Isabel Rivera Leon
Andrea Inzunza
Joan Memmer
Leo Benedetti
Kim Avoy Helgeson

Samia Zumout
Greg DeCristofaro
Carrie Sonsteng
Art Sanchez
Santiago Ávila
Joe DiDuca
Barbara Mesa
Carlos Torres
Bernhard Family

Tim Steffen
Elaine Little
Ron Keyes
Theresa Durant
Sam Kempner
Richard Carmack
Helvia Saavedra
Celia Topete

NOVEMBER INTENTIONS OF POPE LEO XIV

For The Prevention of Suicide

Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

INTENCIONES DE NOVIEMBRE DEL PAPA LEÓN XIV

Para la prevención del suicidio

Oremos para que quienes luchan con pensamientos suicidas encuentren el apoyo, la atención y el amor que necesitan en su comunidad, y se abran a la belleza de la vida.



PRAY FOR THE HOLY SOULS IN PURGATORY



This Week's Readings

THIRTY-THIRD WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Monday; Nov. 17th Memorial of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious

1st Reading: 1 Maccabees 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63

Psalms 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158

Give me life, O Lord, and I will do your commands.

Gospel: Luke 18:35-43

Tuesday; Nov. 18th

1st Reading: 2 Maccabees 6:18-31

Psalms 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7

The Lord upholds me.

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Wednesday; Nov. 19th

1st Reading: 2 Maccabees 7:1, 20-31

Psalms 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b and 15

Lord, when your glory appears, my joy will be full.

Gospel: Luke 19:11-28

Thursday; Nov. 20th

1st Reading: 1 Maccabees 2:15-29

Psalms 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15

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

Gospel: Luke 19:41-44

Friday; Nov. 21st Memorial of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

1st Reading: 1 Maccabees 4:36-37, 52-59

Psalms 1 Chronicles 29:10bcd, 11abc, 11d-12a, 12bcd

We praise your glorious name, O mighty God.

Gospel: Luke 19:45-48

Saturday; Nov. 22nd Memorial of Saint Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr

1st Reading: 1 Maccabees 6:1-13

Psalms 9:2-3, 4 and 6, 16 and 19

I will rejoice in your salvation, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 20:27-40

Sunday; November 23rd

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

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 5:1-3

Psalms 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

2nd Reading: Colossians 1:12-20

Gospel: Luke 23:35-43

MEDITATION OF THE DAY

Persevering in Hope



Just as the Church awaited in the holy ones of old the first coming, so in us she is expecting the second. Just as she steadfastly

hoped in the first for the price of her redemption, so she hopes in the second for the reward of her earnings.... There are some, impatient to find happiness in the affairs of this present life, who neglect the Lord's advice and make every effort to snatch the prizes this world offers. But blessed is the man whose whole hope rests in the Lord's name.... He knows that it is better to become humble with the meek than to share ill-gotten gains with the proud. He will find comfort in saying to himself:

"The Lord is my share, so I will wait for him. The Lord is good to everyone that trusts him, to a soul that seeks him. It is good to stand by quietly, ready to greet the Lord. Though, true enough, my soul has longed for your salvation, Lord, still I trust in your word. As it says in Scripture: Hope long delayed grieves the soul and desire unfulfilled brings it weariness (Proverbs 13:12). Still your promise is there to strengthen it. In this the soul does not have just a bare hope; it overflows with hope, hope mounting upon hope as trial comes upon trial, delay upon delay. I am absolutely sure that in the end he will appear and will prove not to have deceived me; so in spite of the delay he imposes I shall go on waiting for him confidently, because he certainly will come and will not be later than the most timely day."

When will this day be? When the full number of all these brethren of ours has been reached and the time of mercy set aside for penance is completed. Listen to Isaiah, who often gained entry to the heavenly council chamber; he tells us with what design the Lord puts off the judgment for a time: The Lord delays so that he can be merciful towards you, and thus he will be honored for having spared you.

The Lord is a God of judgment; blessed is everyone who waits for him (Is 30:18). So if you are wise, give an eye to yourself and see how you are using this delay. If you are a sinner, do not be heedless but take the opportunity to repent. If you are holy the time is given you to progress in holiness. — 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. © 1970 by Cistercian Publications, Inc. © 2008 by Order of Saint Benedict, Collegeville, Minnesota.

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

HOMILY NOTES

Noviembre es el mes de la Devoción a las Santas Almas del Purgatorio. Nos encontramos en una posición única, ya que nuestros méritos terrenales pueden ayudar a las almas del Purgatorio si ofrecemos intencionalmente a Dios nuestras oraciones, buenas obras, sacrificios y, especialmente, el Santo Sacrificio de la Misa para su alivio.

La caída de las hojas y el acortamiento de los días nos recuerdan que toda vida terrenal llega a su fin. El Catecismo enseña: «Todos los que mueren en la gracia y amistad de Dios, pero aún imperfectamente purificados, tienen asegurada su salvación eterna; pero después de la muerte, se someten a una purificación para alcanzar la santidad necesaria para entrar en la alegría del cielo». (CCC 1030)



November is the month for Devotion to the Holy Souls in Purgatory. 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.

The falling leaves & shorter days remind us that all earthly life comes to an end. 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)

TWO QUESTIONS ABOUT PURGATORY

If you've ever been asked or have questioned what purgatory is all about here's a bit of info. Last week's FAQ addressed whether purgatory is real.

Q1 Who goes to purgatory?

A1 Those who die in the state of grace, yet without having been purified of all of their attachment to sin, go to Purgatory. Christ admonished us to "be perfect as the heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:48), and so the purification of all imperfections, which even the good often still have at death, is necessary before entering the Father's Presence.

Q2 What is it like in purgatory?

A2 Pope St. John Paul II in three addresses on Heaven, Hell, and Purgatory explained how the essence of these realities is not a "place," such as exists in space & time, but the relationship of the soul to God, Who is Love. On His part, He is always offering it. On our part, we choose to accept it perfectly, or we choose to accept it though imperfectly. We can also choose to reject God's offer of love. Our choice, whichever it is, becomes fixed at death when the possibility of moral choice ends. This determines our eternal relationship with God. The love of God in the blessed soul is experienced as joy, and in the longing of the soul is purified as fire, mitigated by the knowledge that it will one day be with God, and, by the comfort of the angels, saints, and souls on earth praying for it. St. Paul speaks of the fate of the Just when he speaks of the Last Day of human history:

1 Corinthians 3:12-15 Now if any one builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble – each man's work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. (Continued on back page.)

DOS PREGUNTAS SOBRE EL PURGATORIO

Si alguna vez te han preguntado o te has preguntado qué es el purgatorio, aquí tienes algo de información. La pregunta de la semana pasada era si el purgatorio es real..

Q1 ¿Quién va al purgatorio?

A2 Quienes mueren en estado de gracia, pero sin haberse purificado completamente del pecado, van al Purgatorio. Cristo nos exhortó a ser «perfectos como el Padre celestial es perfecto» (Mateo 5:48), y por eso la purificación de toda imperfección, que incluso los buenos suelen conservar al morir, es necesaria antes de entrar en la Presencia del Padre.

Q2 ¿Cómo es el purgatorio?

A2 San Juan Pablo II, en tres discursos sobre el Cielo, el Infierno y el Purgatorio, explicó que la esencia de estas realidades no es un «lugar» como tal, que existe en el espacio y el tiempo, sino la relación del alma con Dios, que es Amor. Él siempre la ofrece. Nosotros, por nuestra parte, elegimos aceptarla perfectamente o, imperfectamente, también podemos optar por rechazarla. Nuestra elección, sea cual sea, queda fijada con la muerte, cuando cesa la posibilidad de elegir moralmente. Esto determina nuestra relación eterna con Dios. El amor de Dios en el alma bienaventurada se experimenta como gozo, y en el anhelo del alma se purifica como fuego, mitigado por la certeza de que un día estará con Dios y por el consuelo de los ángeles, los santos y las almas en la tierra que interceden por ella. San Pablo habla del destino de los justos cuando se refiere al Último Día de la historia humana.

1 Corintios 3:12-15 Ahora bien, si alguien edifica sobre el fundamento con oro, plata, piedras preciosas, madera, heno o hojarasca, la obra de cada uno se hará evidente, pues el Día la revelará, ya que será revelada por el fuego, y el fuego probará la calidad de la obra de cada uno. Si la obra que alguien ha edificado sobre el fundamento permanece, recibirá recompensa. Si la obra de alguien se quema, sufrirá pérdida, aunque él mismo se salvará, pero como quien escapa del fuego. (Continúa en la página siguiente.)



We Remember the Victims of the November 8, 2018 Camp Fire.

Of the 85 lives lost seven years ago on that fateful day, three were St. Thomas More Parishioners:

JOANNE CADDY | JULIAN BINSTOCK | ELISABETH GAAL

May these and all the others who perished in the Camp Fire rest in peace.

Please pray today for the holy souls in purgatory.



Visit www.stmparadise.org to read Camp Fire: STM Legacy, the amazing story of our parish's recovery efforts after the Camp Fire, plus short biographies on the three STM victims, pics, and the Chico ER-Paradise Post article: *85 Lives, 85 Stories*.

Operation Christmas Child Boxes Due Back by Monday Nov. 24



We're partnering with Samaritan's Purse to deliver Christmas Shoe Boxes to deserving children around the world. **REMINDER:** If you picked up a shoebox, once filled, return it to the church or church office no later than Monday, November 24.

If you take a shoe box, please do the following:

1. Follow the instructions inside the box.
2. Return the boxes to STM between Nov. 17 and 24. (Note: Don't over fill the shoe boxes.)
3. Optional: You can also donate \$10.00 to defray the cost of shipping by using the envelope provided.

Questions? Contact Greg DeCristofaro at (530) 873-4132H or (530) 588-3790C or email gregdec@att.net. Thanks!

NOTE! The Parish Financial Report time frame was mislabeled as June to Sept. The correct timeframe for this report is July to Sept.

Parish Financial Support

~~June~~ July- Sept.: First Quarter Ending Sept. 30, 2025

Offertory Collections	\$32,324
WeShare (Online Giving)	\$9,205
Special Collections	\$5,317
Holy Days	\$254

Christ loves His church (Eph. 5:25) just as our parishioners love St. Thomas More and support her. This support allows us to live out our mission – To know, love, live and spread the good news of Jesus Christ and our Catholic faith. Guided by the Holy Spirit, [we] share our time, talent, and treasure in the service of the spiritual, liturgical, educational and social needs of all God's people. (Adopted 1995)



MEN'S MINISTRY

Friday, Nov. 21 | 7A | Church Hall Small Room



ADORATION

Friday, Nov. 21 | Following 830A Mass
Ends at 6P

Please join for a
Ladies Fall
LUNCHEON

Women of St. Thomas More Meeting

Saturday, November 22 at 10A

Monthly Meeting e³ Friends Giving Potluck

A2 answer continues from page 3.

Q2 What is it like in purgatory?

A2 For most of the human race, their "Day" of judgment will be the last day of their life, not the Last Day of history. What Christ has reserved to purify the Just who survive to the End will purify the Just who die before it, as well; as it will punish the unjust, also by fire. (Source: Seasons & Feast Days_FAQ_EWTN)

La respuesta A2 continúa desde la página 3.

Q2 ¿Cómo es el purgatorio?

A2 Para la mayor parte de la humanidad, su «Día» del juicio será el último día de su vida, no el último día de la historia. Lo que Cristo ha reservado para purificar a los justos que sobrevivan hasta el fin, purificará también a los justos que mueran antes; así como castigará a los injustos, igualmente con fuego. (Fuente: Seasons & Feast Days_FAQ_EWTN)



YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS!

Check out the beautiful new website for our three Newman Centers at Chico State, Sacramento State, & U.C. Davis. The Newman Centers minister to our college students. newmancatholiccenter.org