



# ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH


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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

Wednesday, Thurs., & Friday 830A

## Sunday Readings

**1st Reading** Isaiah 49:3, 5-6

**Psalm** 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10

Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

Aquí estoy, Señor, para hacer tu voluntad.

**2nd Reading** 1 Corinthians 1:1-3

**Gospel** John 1:29-34

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 18<sup>TH</sup>

Sunday, January 18 Carol Zellmer † 1030A

Larry Campbell †

Domingo, 18 de Enero Celia Elba Topete † 1230P español

Tues., January 20 6p

Wed., January 21 830A

Thurs., January 22 Celia Elba Topete † 830A

Friday, January 23 830A

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR

Rod Montgomery  
Steve Neeley  
Kim Steffen-Parkney  
Mary Anne Durant  
Isabel Rivera Leon  
Andrea Inzunza  
Joan Memmer  
Leo Benedetti  
Kim Avoy Helgeson  
Gloria Klinger

Samia Zumout  
Greg DeCristofaro  
Carrie Sonsteng  
Art Sanchez  
Santiago Ávila  
Joe DiDuca  
Carlos Torres  
Bernhard Family  
Tony & Francene Packett

Tim Steffen  
Elaine Little  
Ron Keyes  
Theresa Durant  
Sam Kempner  
Richard Carmack  
Dolores Costello  
Barbara Braun  
Rosemary Peterson

## JANUARY INTENTIONS OF POPE LEO XIV

*For prayer with the Word of God*

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

## INTENCIONES DE ENERO DEL PAPA LEÓN XIV

*Para la oración con la Palabra de Dios*

Oremos para que la oración con la Palabra de Dios sea alimento para nuestras vidas y fuente de esperanza en nuestras comunidades, ayudándonos a construir una Iglesia más fraterna y misionera.

## This Week's Readings

### SECOND WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

#### Monday; January 19<sup>th</sup>

1st Reading: 1 Samuel 15:16-23

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

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

Gospel: Mark 2:18-22

#### Tuesday; January 20<sup>th</sup>

1st Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalm 89:20, 21-22, 27-28

*I have found David, my servant.*

Gospel: Mark 2:23-28

#### Wednesday; January 21<sup>st</sup>

MEMORIAL OF SAINT  
AGNES, VIRGIN AND  
MARTYR

1st Reading: 1 Samuel 17:32-33, 37, 40-51

Psalm 144:1b, 2, 9-10

*Blessed be the Lord, my Rock!*

Gospel: Mark 3:7-12

#### Thursday; January 22<sup>nd</sup>

DAY OF PRAYER FOR  
THE LEGAL PROTECTION  
OF UNBORN CHILDREN

1st Reading: 1 Samuel 18:6-9; 19:1-7

Psalm 56:2-3, 9-10a, 10b-11, 12-13

*In God I trust; I shall not fear.*

Gospel: Mark 1:40-45

#### Friday; January 23<sup>rd</sup>

1st Reading: 1 Samuel 24:3-21

Psalm 57:2, 3-4, 6 and 11

*Have mercy on me, God, have mercy.*

Gospel: Mark 3:13-19

#### Saturday; January 24<sup>th</sup>

MEMORIAL OF SAINT  
FRANCIS DE SALES,  
BISHOP AND DOCTOR

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27

Psalm 80:2-3, 5-7

*Let us see your face, Lord, and we shall be saved.*

Gospel: Mark 3:20-21

#### Sunday; January 25<sup>th</sup>

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Isaiah 8:23-9:3

Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14

*The Lord is my light and my salvation.*

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23 or 4:12-17

## MEDITATION OF THE DAY

### Behold the Lamb



**How suddenly the Christmastide interval comes to an end!** For nearly three weeks we have been playing truant from the grim school of life, among sights and sounds that brought back our childhood; the mystery of a cave, and the warm smell of a stable.

**And then the Epiphany octave has for its tailpiece the gaunt figure of St. John,** pointing to the Man he has baptized and saying: "Look, this is the Lamb of God!" **Just as we are wrapping away the last sheep from**

**the Crib...**[we are] reminded that the lamb's role is to be a victim! That is what the Baptist will have meant; to the Jewish mind, the lamb was not particularly a type of innocence. The last present the Wise Men brought was, after all, the wisest; Simeon was right—this Child was to be a sign men would refuse to recognize. The shadow of the Passion has fallen over our rejoicings.

**Yes, it is like Saturday night in the schoolroom; our toys must be put away.**

At all times there have been Christians who were so far betrayed into error by temperament or by false logic, as to think that nature was utterly tainted by the Fall, that God's gifts were only snares, that we must refuse all comfort, fight shy of all mirth, shake our heads over all enjoyment. Against that wet-blanket doctrine, Christmas is a salutary protest; God suckled by a Mother's milk, among friendly creatures, recognized by simple hearts—yes, Bethlehem is the antidote. But Bethlehem—heaven finding a home on earth—is not all. Jordan, too, has its place in the Christian philosophy; baptismal Jordan, the type of death, and separation, and penance for wrong done. God's gifts are not simply his birthday presents; they are the stepping-stones of mortification as well.

By all means let us wish one another—ourselves even—a comfortable new year. But we might steel ourselves with the resolution not to demand comfort as a right or cling to it...— MONSIGNOR RONALD A. KNOX

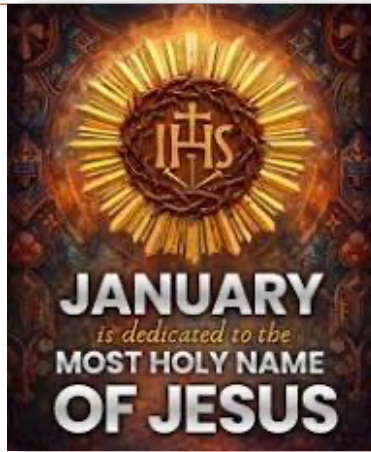
Monsignor Knox († 1957) was a British Catholic apologist and translator of the Bible. / From *Lightning Meditations*. © 1959, Sheed and Ward, New York, NY.

Excerpt from *Magnificat Magazine*, Meditation of the Day, January 18, 2026

## HOMILY NOTES



**El mes de enero ocupa un lugar importante en el calendario litúrgico de la Iglesia Católica. Es un tiempo en el que la Iglesia honra el Santo Nombre de Jesús, una celebración profundamente arraigada en la historia y la teología de la fe. La Iglesia Católica celebra la Fiesta del Santo Nombre de Jesús desde el siglo XV.**



**The month of January holds a significant place in the Catholic Church's liturgical calendar. This is a time when the Church honors the Holy Name of Jesus, an observance deeply rooted in the faith's history & theology. The Catholic Church has celebrated the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus since the 15th century.**

### DEEPENING DEVOTION TO THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS

¿No es maravilloso que nuestra Iglesia nos brinde un día y un mes especiales para meditar sobre el misterio de la acción salvadora de Dios en nuestras vidas a través de su Hijo? En honor al Santo Nombre de Jesús, te invitamos a profundizar tu devoción a su Nombre a través de la oración y el canto.

**A continuación, encontrará cuatro sugerencias para la devoción al Santo Nombre de Jesús. ¡Que su amor por Jesús se profundice al aferrarse a Su Santo Nombre!**

1. **Medita en el Nombre de Jesús.**  
Junto con la Oración de Jesús, la Letanía del Santísimo Nombre de Jesús es una poderosa manera de meditar en el Nombre de Jesús.
2. **Canta alabanzas y medita en el nombre de Jesús.**  
Algunas canciones para alabar y meditar en Su nombre son: «Santo Dios, alabamos tu nombre», «¡Salve, oh poder del nombre de Jesús!» y «Ante el nombre de Jesús».
3. **Recen la Oración de Jesús como una poderosa forma de meditar en el Nombre de Jesús.**  
Para tener siempre Su Nombre en sus labios, consideren adoptar una oración popular entre los católicos orientales y nuestros hermanos y hermanas ortodoxos: la Oración de Jesús. A menudo se reza con un rosario llamado chotki, pero también se puede rezar con un rosario común. La oración es sencilla: en cada cuenta o nudo se reza: «Señor Jesucristo, Hijo de Dios, ten misericordia de mí, pecador».
4. **Recen la Letanía del Santísimo Nombre de Jesús, otra poderosa manera, tanto para familias como para personas individuales, de meditar en el Nombre de Jesús.**  
Nota: Publicaremos la Letanía completa, junto con sus beneficios para quienes la recen, en la edición del boletín de la próxima semana.

### DEEPENING DEVOTION TO THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS

Isn't it beautiful that our Church gives us a special day and month to meditate on the mystery of God's saving action in our lives through His Son? In honor of the Holy Name of Jesus, consider deepening your devotion to His Name through prayer and song.

**Listed below are four suggestions for devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus. May your love for Jesus deepen as you cling to His Holy Name!**

1. **Meditate on Jesus' Name.**  
Along with the Jesus Prayer, the Litany of the Most Holy Name of Jesus is a powerful way to meditate on Jesus' Name.
2. **Sing in praise & meditation on Jesus' Name.**  
A few songs to use for praise and meditation on His Name include "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name", "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name," and "At the Name of Jesus".
3. **Pray the Jesus Prayer as a powerful way to meditate on Jesus' Name.**  
To keep His Name always on your lips, consider adopting a prayer popular among Eastern Catholics and our Orthodox brothers and sisters: the Jesus Prayer. Often prayed on a prayer rope called a chotki, it can also be prayed on regular rosary beads. The prayer is simple: on each bead or knot you pray, "LORD JESUS CHRIST, SON OF GOD, HAVE MERCY ON ME, A SINNER."  
When this prayer becomes habitual, we become more attuned to praying His Name throughout our days and more aware of our constant need for His mercy and love.
4. **Pray The Litany of the Most Holy Name of Jesus, another powerful way, for families and individuals, to meditate on Jesus' Name.**  
Note: We will publish the full Litany, along with its benefits to individuals and families who pray the Litany, in next week's edition of the bulletin.

**Upcoming Workshop!****HEALING TRAUMAS**

For those still having nightmares about the fire, or other traumatic events in their lives, join us for a free presentation about the Instinctual Trauma Response method, designed to teach you to think about the events in a different, not painful, way.

Fellow parishioner Matt Poje, LCPP, is offering a talk, over two evenings, to learn the method.

There is no charge and no requirement to share your story.  
All supplies will be provided

**Thursday, Jan. 22 & Friday, Jan. 23**  
**630p to 830 | Parish Hall**

**ATTENTION!**

**MEN  
of STM**

**SAVE  
THESE  
DATES:**

**Feb 27 thru  
March 1**



**Join Deacon Gary & the  
Passionist Retreat Team at  
The Men's Retreat!**

Christ the King Retreat Center  
Friday, February 27 to Sunday, March 1

Something is happening! Listen... Jesus is calling! Let's gather together for reflection, prayer, and community as we listen to the voice of Christ in our midst.

*"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, I am in the midst of them."—Matthew 18:20*

Registration: \$290-Single | \$260-Double  
Ride share will be available.

Pick up a flyer in the narthex for details.

**Questions?** See Deacon Gary after Mass

**WOMEN  
of STM:**



**SAVE THE  
DATE!**

**The Women's Retreat, for all ladies of  
St. Thomas More parish, will be at  
Christ the King Retreat Center January  
30 to Feb. 1, 2026.**

Listen, Jesus is calling! This Retreat invites us to a spiritual gathering for reflection, prayer, and community as we listen to the voice of Christ in our midst.

Pick up a flyer in the narthex for details.

**Questions?** Cathy Keesling 530.828.0278  
or Cheryl Barron: 530.514.8859.

**ATTENTION MEN OF ST. THOMAS MORE!****SIX GREAT REASONS TO ATTEND THE  
MEN'S RETREAT FEB 27 to MARCH 1**

1. **Spiritually Refocus:** Step away from the chaos of everyday life for some dedicated prayer time, worship, and scripture study, allowing you to deepen your connection with God.
2. **Fellowship:** Christ the King Retreat Center is a beautiful, tranquil setting to share struggles, build brotherhood, and break isolation.
3. **Address Real-Life Issues:** Honestly discuss faith's role in work, marriage, fatherhood, and personal life with peers.
4. **Personal Growth & Clarity:** Gain new perspectives on life, and develop tools for resilience and self-improvement.
5. **Recharge:** Realign priorities, discover deeper meaning, and get energized to live a more Christ-centered life.
6. **Self-Care:** Nurture your inner self and mind in a calm, natural, therapeutic environment that promotes well-being.



**Here's a chance for some  
"guy time" with a group of  
great men who love Jesus!**

**Ladies Bible Study**

Ladies! Please join us for the Ladies Bible Study on  
Thursdays at 1P in the Parish Hall's small room. We are  
using Scott Hahn and Curtis Mitchell's study guide on the  
Gospel of Mark.

All ladies are welcome.

Questions? Call Gail Crowley 530-877-8474

**Next study session Thursday, January 22 at 1P**

**ADORATION**

Friday, Jan. 23 | Follows 830A Mass  
Adoration ends at 6P



**Got 15 minutes?** This month of Devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus is a perfect time to spend a few minutes with Jesus at Adoration! Friday's 9A to 6p. Jesus loves spending time with you!

**MEN'S MINISTRY**

Friday, Jan. 23 | 7A | Church Hall Small Room



**The church office will be closed on Monday, Jan. 19  
in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday.**