



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

Wed., Thursday, Friday 830A

Sunday Readings

1st Reading Acts 2:14, 22-33

Psalm 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11

Lord, you will show us the path of life.

Enséñanos. Señor, el camino de la vida. Aleluva.

2nd Reading 1 Peter 1:17-21

Gospel Luke 24:13-35

MASS INTENTIONS FOR EASTER WEEK OF APRIL 19TH

<i>Sunday; April 19</i>	<i>Feodora Gerspacher (birthday) Elizabeth Whalen †</i>	<i>1030A</i>
<i>Domingo; 19 de abril</i>	<i>Aurora Rico Hernandez †</i>	<i>1230P español</i>
<i>Tues.; April 21</i>	<i>Fidel Rivera Leon † Ken Campbell †</i>	<i>6P</i>
<i>Wed.; April 22</i>	<i>Dcn. Michael Mangan Greg DeCristofaro</i>	<i>830A</i>
<i>Thurs.; April 23</i>	<i>Familia Ospina Victor Furrer †</i>	<i>830A</i>
<i>Friday; April 24</i>	<i>Scott Kelly (birthday) Familia de Eladia Navarro Garcia</i>	<i>830A</i>

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR

*Rod Montgomery
Bernbard Family
Ed Jimenez
Mary Anne Durant
Rick Sillman
Andrea Inzunza
Kimberly Laird
Leo Benedetti
Kim Avoy Helgeson*

*Samia Zumout
Greg DeCristofaro
Carrie Sonsteng
Art Sanchez
Santiago Ávila
Carlos Torres
Tony & Francene Packett
Rick Hodson*

*Bryant Smith
Ron Keyes
Theresa Durant
Sam Kempner
Dolores Costello
Rosemary Peterson
Shirley Richards
David Brown
Gloria Klinger*

APRIL INTENTIONS OF POPE LEO XIV

For the Use Of the New Technologies

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

INTENCIONES DE ABRIL DEL PAPA LEÓN XIV

Por el uso de las nuevas tecnologías

Oremos para que el uso de las nuevas tecnologías no sustituya las relaciones humanas, respete la dignidad de la persona y nos ayude a afrontar las crisis de nuestro tiempo.

This Week's Readings

THE 3RD WEEK OF EASTER

Monday; April 20th

1st Reading: Acts 6:8-15
Psalm 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30
Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!
Gospel: John 6:22-29

Tuesday; April 21st

1st Reading: Acts 7:51-8:1a
Psalm 31:3cd-4, 6 & 7b & 8a, 17 & 21ab
Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.
Gospel: John 6:30-35

Wednesday; April 22nd

1st Reading: Acts 8:1b-8
Psalm 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a
Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.
Gospel: John 6:35-40

Thursday; April 23rd

1st Reading: Acts 8:26-40
Psalm 66:8-9, 16-17, 20
Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.
Gospel: John 6:44-51

Friday; April 24th

1st Reading: Acts 9:1-20
Psalm 117:1bc, 2
Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.
Gospel: John 6:52-59

Saturday; April 25th **Feast of Saint Mark, evangelist**

1st Reading: 1 Peter 5:5b-14
Psalm 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17
For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.
Gospel: Mark 16:15-20

Sunday; April 26th

Fourth Sunday of Easter

1st Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36-41
Psalm 23: 1-3a, 3b4, 5, 6
The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
2nd Reading: 1 Peter 2:20b-25
Gospel: John 10:1-10

MEDITATION OF THE DAY

“Were not our hearts burning?”



Observe what was the nature of [Jesus'] presence in the Church after his Resurrection. It was this, that he came and went as he pleased; that material substances, such as the fastened doors, were no impediments to his coming; and that when he was present his disciples did not, as a matter of course, know him. Saint Mark says he appeared to the two disciples who were going into the country, to Emmaus, in another form. Saint Luke, who gives the account more at length, says that while he talked

with them their heart burned within them. And it is worth remarking that the two disciples do not seem to have been conscious of this at the time, but on looking back, they recollected that as having been, which did not strike them while it was....

For so it was ordained, that Christ should not be both seen & known at once; first he was seen, then he was known. Only by faith is he known to be present; he is not recognized by sight. When he opened his disciples' eyes, he at once vanished. He removed his visible presence, and left but a memorial of himself. He vanished from sight that he might be present in a sacrament; and in order to connect his visible presence with his presence invisible, he for one instant manifested himself to their open eyes; manifested himself, if I may so speak, while he passed from his hiding place of sight without knowledge to that of knowledge without sight.

Christ has promised he will be with us to the end.... How he effects it we know not; in what precisely it consists we know not. We see him not; but we are to believe that we possess him—that we have been brought under the virtue of his healing hand, of his life-giving breath, of the manna flowing from his lips, and of the blood issuing from his side. And hereafter, on looking back, we shall be conscious that we have been thus favored.... Christians, on looking back on years past, will feel, at least in a degree, that Christ has been with them, though they knew it not, only believed it, at the time.

They will even recollect then the burning of their hearts. Nay, though they seemed not even to believe anything at the time, yet afterwards, if they have come to him in sincerity, they will experience a sort of heavenly fragrance and savor of immortality, when they least expect it, rising upon their minds, as if in token that God has been with them, and investing all that has taken place, which before seemed to them but earthly, with beams of glory. — SAINT JOHN HENRY NEWMAN

Saint John Henry Newman († 1890), a Doctor of the Church, established the Oratory in Birmingham, England, and was a preacher of great eloquence. / From *Parochial and Plain Sermons*, vol. 6, no. 10. Works of John Henry Newman. Copyright © 2007 by The National Institute for Newman Studies. All rights reserved.

Excerpt from *Magnificat Magazine*, Meditation of the Day, April 19, 2026

HOMILY NOTES



¡Bienvenidos a abril, el mes dedicado a la Santa Eucaristía! Al dedicar abril a la Santa Eucaristía, se nos permite centrar nuestros corazones y mentes en el profundo misterio de la Eucaristía: la presencia real de Jesucristo –cuerpo, sangre, alma y divinidad–.

Dios comunica la gracia a los fieles a través de todos los Sacramentos; sin embargo, la Santa Eucaristía comunica al mismo Autor de la Gracia.

El Papa Benedicto XVI nos dice, en su Exhortación Apostólica **Sacramentum Caritatis**: «*En la Eucaristía, Jesús no nos da una "cosa", sino a sí mismo; ofrece su propio cuerpo y derrama su propia sangre. De este modo nos entrega la totalidad de su vida y nos revela el origen último de este amor. Él es el Hijo eterno, entregado a nosotros por el Padre*».

Este mes constituye un tiempo especial para que los católicos profundicen su comprensión y aprecio por Cristo en la Eucaristía, como fuente, culmen y sustento de nuestra fe. Y la Iglesia ofrece diversas celebraciones litúrgicas, devociones y reflexiones sobre la Santa Eucaristía para subrayar la verdad fundamental de que el Pan y el Vino consagrados son Cristo mismo, renovando su sacrificio sobre el altar. Oculto bajo las apariencias de la Hostia, Él está presente corporal y sustancialmente en todos los sagrarios del mundo, fiel a su promesa de que nunca nos dejará ni nos abandonará.

ORACIÓN EN HONOR A LA SAGRADA EUCARISTÍA

Las principales oraciones eucarísticas se encuentran dentro de la Liturgia de la Eucaristía y se rezan durante la Misa. Estas oraciones son ofrecidas a Dios por el sacerdote, quien actúa **in persona Christi**. Los fieles unen sus corazones al Corazón de Cristo durante estas oraciones.

A continuación se presenta una de las muchas otras oraciones en honor a la Eucaristía que los fieles pueden rezar durante la Misa, la Adoración o en cualquier otro momento.

Acto de comunión espiritual

Jesús mío, creo que estás presente en el Santísimo Sacramento.

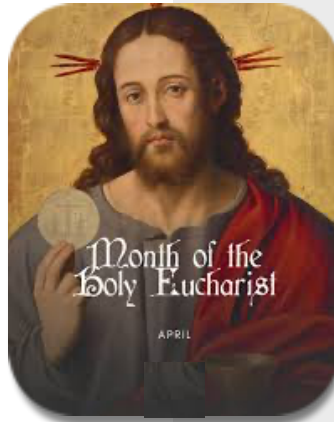
Te amo sobre todas las cosas y deseo recibirte en mi alma.

Ya que en este momento no puedo recibirte sacramentalmente,

ven al menos espiritualmente a mi corazón.

Te abrazo como si ya estuvieras allí y me uno enteramente a Ti.

No permitas jamás que me separe de Ti.
Amén.



April is the month dedicated to the Holy Eucharist! By dedicating April to the Holy Eucharist, it allows us to focus our hearts and minds on the profound mystery of the Eucharist – the real presence of Jesus Christ, body, blood, soul, and divinity.

God communicates grace to the faithful through all the Sacraments, but the Holy Eucharist communicates the Author of Grace, Himself.

Pope Benedict XVI tells us in his Apostolic Exhortation, *Sacramentum Caritatis*, “*In the Eucharist, Jesus does not give us a ‘thing,’ but himself; he offers his own body and pours out his own blood. He thus gives us the totality of his life and reveals the ultimate origin of this love. He is the eternal Son, given to us by the Father.*”

This month is a special time for Catholics to deepen their understanding and appreciation of Christ in the Eucharist, as the source, summit, and sustenance of our faith. The Church offers various liturgical celebrations, devotions, and reflections on the Holy Eucharist to emphasize the fundamental truth that the consecrated Bread and Wine are Christ Himself renewing His sacrifice upon the altar. Hidden under the appearance of the Host, He is substantially bodily present in all the tabernacles of the world, mindful of His promise that He will never leave us nor forsake us.

PRAYER HONORING THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The principal Eucharistic prayers are contained within The Liturgy of the Eucharist and said during Mass. These prayers are offered to God by the priest acting in the person of Christ. The faithful join their hearts with the Heart of Christ during these prayers.

Below is one of many other prayers honoring the Eucharist that can be said by the faithful during Mass, Adoration, or at any time.

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.

Source: <https://covenantcatholic.org/devotion-of-the-month/april-dedicated-to-the-holy-eucharist/>



REMINDER:

It's APRIL ! The Tuesday 6p Bilingual Mass is back! Potluck after Mass.



ADORATION

Friday, April 24 | Follows 830A Mass
Adoration ends at 6P



MEN'S MINISTRY

Friday, April 24 | **930A** | Church Hall Mtg Rm.

USCCB to Celebrate the Declaration of Independence Signing

On July 4, 2026, the U.S. will commemorate the Semiquincentennial (250th) Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) will also commemorate this anniversary with three opportunities for Catholics to take part.

Opportunity 1 Parishes and individuals can participate by contributing to a collective 250 Hours of Adoration, in your home or church, during the 250th Anniversary of America.

Opportunity 2 250 Hrs of Works of Mercy. Works of mercy can include assisting at our local crisis pregnancy center or local food pantry & clothing closets, volunteering at and donating to our local St. Vincent de Paul. For examples and guides go to [https://www.usccb.org/resources/America 250 Catholic Resource - 250 Hours of Adoration and 250 Works of Mercy.pdf](https://www.usccb.org/resources/America%20Catholic%20Resource%20-%20250%20Hours%20of%20Adoration%20and%20250%20Works%20of%20Mercy.pdf)

Opportunity 3 The USCCB Consecration of the United States to the Sacred Heart of Jesus on Thursday, June 11, 2026. To prepare for the Consecration the Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus may be incorporated into Holy Hour.

Soon you will hear more about details for plans here at STM and in the Sacramento Diocese. Visit <https://www.usccb.org/weholdthesetruths>, a special page on the USCCB website that lifts up the contributions of Catholics and the impact of our faith on the history of this country.

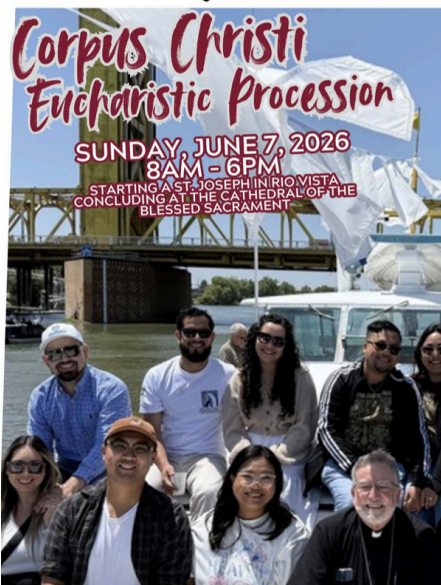
ATTENTION ALL WOMEN OF THE PARISH

**MISSED APRIL'S MEETING? NO WORRIES!
THE NEXT WOMEN OF STM MEETING
SATURDAY, MAY 16 at 10A**

Did you know... ALL women of STM are automatic members of this group! Please stop by and check out this wonderful group of spirit led ladies! You'll be pleasantly surprised.

Sacramento Diocese Corpus Christi Procession June 7

Join us Sunday, June 7, for the Sacramento Diocese' Annual Corpus Christi Procession on the river of the Blessed Sacrament to the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. Day begins at 8 a.m. with Mass at St. Joseph in Rio Vista and ends with Mass at the Cathedral at 5P. For more details, full schedule, and to RSVP go to <https://scd.org/corpuschristiprocession>



Observe the procession on the water from the following locations:

- Rio Vista City Dock 9:30am
- Isleton Public Dock 10:15am
- Walnut Grove Public Dock 11:30am
- Garcia Bend at 1:40pm
- Miller Park at 2:20pm
- Old Sacramento at 2:40pm
- River Walk Park at 2:40pm

Secular Franciscans Annual GAMES DAY Saturday; May 2

YAY! It's that time again! Franciscans Annual Games Day is Saturday, May 2 at 11A. The fun takes place in the church hall. Tickets are \$10 per person.



Proceeds benefit St. Vincent de Paul.

Sponsored by the Secular Franciscans of Paradise.

Join us for games, food, raffle prizes, silent auction and more! The fun kicks off at 11A and lasts until 3p. Your ticket includes a delicious lunch. Get your tickets after Mass!

Ladies Bible Study Thurs., April 23, 1P
Family Life Center - small meeting room
Questions? Call Gail Crowley 530-877-8474