



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

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- 12p 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 Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

Psalm 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16

Lord, you are good and forgiving.

Tú, Señor, eres bueno y clemente.

2nd Reading Romans 8:26-27

Gospel Matthew 13:24-43

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK OF JULY 19TH

Sunday; July 19 Bill Gippert † 1030A
Ed Jimenez †

Domingo; 19 de julio Carol Zellmer † 1230P español
Emanuel Silva †

Tues.; July 21 Maximina León Mendez y familia † 6P
Hna. Maria Flores Rivera y su congregación

Wed.; July 22 Nancy Walker † 830A
Intentions of the Helgeson Family

Thurs.; July 23 Carol Zellmer † 830A

Friday; July 24 Susie Aldrich † 830A
Kim Helgeson Avoy

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR

Rod Montgomery
Bernbard Family
Mary Anne Durant
Rick Sillman
Andrea Inzunza
Kimberly Laird
Leo Benedetti
Kim Helgeson Avoy
Michael Coronado
Joan Memmer

Samia Zumout
Greg DeCristofaro
Carrie Sonsteng
Art Sanchez
Santiago Ávila
Carlos Torres
Tony & Francene Packett
Rick Hodson
Larry Young
The Mortenson Family

Bryant Smith
Ron Keyes
Theresa Durant
Raul & Helvia
Saavedra
Dolores Costello
Rosemary Peterson
Susie Boyd
David Brown
Gloria Klinger

JULY INTENTIONS OF POPE LEO XIV

For respect for human life

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages,
recognizing it as a gift from God.

INTENCIONES DE JULIO DEL PAPA LEÓN XIV

Por el respeto a la vida humana

Oremos por el respeto y la protección de la vida humana en todas sus
etapas, reconociéndola como un don de Dios.

This Week's Readings
THE 16TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Monday; July 20th

1st Reading: Micah 6:1-4, 6-8
Psalm 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23
To the upright I will show the saving power of God.
Gospel: Matthew 12:38-42

Tuesday; July 21st

1st Reading: Micah 7:14-15, 18-20
Psalm 85:2-4, 5-6, 7-8
Lord, show us your mercy and love.
Gospel: Matthew 12:46-50

Wed.; July 22nd *Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene*

1st Reading: Song of Songs 3:1-4b or
2 Corinthians 5:14-17
Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9
My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.
Gospel: John 20:1-2, 11-18

Thursday; July 23rd

1st Reading: Jeremiah 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13
Psalm 36:6-7ab, 8-9, 10-11
With you is the fountain of life, O Lord.
Gospel: Matthew 13:10-17

Friday; July 24th

1st Reading: Jeremiah 3:14-17
Psalm Jeremiah 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13
The Lord will guard us as a shepherd guards his flock.
Gospel: Matthew 13:18-23

Saturday; July 25th *Feast of Saint James, Apostle*

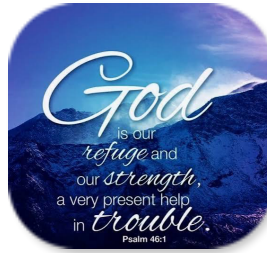
1st Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:7-15
Psalm 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6
Those who sow in tears shall reap rejoicing.
Gospel: Matthew 20:20-28

Sunday; July 26th

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12
Psalm 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130
Lord, I love your commands.
2nd Reading: Romans 8:28-30
Gospel: Matthew 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

MEDITATION OF THE DAY
Why God Allows Weeds



How often do we hear it asked: "Is there still a God who sees everything that is happening in the world?"

The Gospels report that Christ said to the reapers: Let both of them [the weeds and the wheat] grow together until the harvest. ... The Gospels actually teach us very clearly that [God's judgment] will not be as many people expect. ...

If God were to take away the persecutors, there would no longer be martyrs.

If God were to remove all struggles from our lives, we would no longer receive the crown of glory. Hasn't God already had compassion on us? Hasn't God already struck the power of hell a powerful blow? Christ has done penance for the guilt of our sins and expiated us. As a result, all of us who accept Christ's teaching & who live according to it can become eternally blessed.

What more do we want? Should Christ allow himself to be crucified again for us? Or was the miracle of Christ's Resurrection or the other miracles that he performed so minor that we should still wait for new miracles so that we can then believe in his teachings? Hasn't Christ shown us clearly enough the path to heaven through his words and example? ...

The first Christians encountered much suffering. Yet do contemporary Christians no longer know that every hardship that God sends us can be very necessary for our eternal blessedness if we bear it with patience and out of love for God? It will surely be that hell will exercise an even greater power in this world, but we Christians need not fear it. As great as the power of hell is, the power of God is even greater. — **BLESSED FRANZ JÄGERSTÄTTER**

Blessed Franz Jägerstätter († 1943) was an Austrian farmer, husband, and father who was executed for refusing to serve in the Nazi army. / From Franz Jägerstätter: Letters and Writings from Prison, Robert A. Krieg, tr. © 2009, Orbis Books, Maryknoll, NY. www.orbisbooks.com.

Excerpt from Magnificat Magazine, Meditation of the Day, July 19, 2026



Welcome Home Father Chuck!

**Our regular schedule of weekday Masses
return next week beginning Tuesday, July 21st!**

HOMILY NOTES



¡Julio es el mes dedicado a la Preciosísima Sangre!

Esta devoción al sagrado misterio de la Sangre de Cristo, derramada por la humanidad, impregna toda la fe católica y es digna de nuestra atenta meditación y de nuestra más profunda adoración.

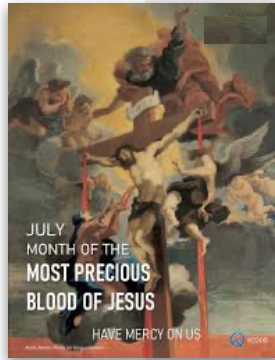
La devoción a la Preciosísima Sangre por parte de los santos y de los fieles se remonta a los inicios de la Iglesia. Muchos versículos de la Sagrada Escritura honran la sangre de Cristo como fuente de nuestra salvación.

Durante su exilio a causa de la Guerra de Independencia de Italia, el Papa Pío IX comprendió la gran necesidad de la intervención divina e instituyó la Fiesta de la Preciosísima Sangre para que se celebrara en julio de 1849. Poco después de la institución formal de la fiesta, la guerra terminó y el Papa regresó a Roma, habiendo sido escuchadas sus oraciones. Al poco tiempo, el mes de julio entero pasó a estar dedicado a la Preciosísima Sangre. La Iglesia anima a todos los fieles a honrar y reconocer con especial atención, durante el mes de julio, la sangre de Jesús derramada por nosotros en su pasión y crucifixión.

Santos católicos y la Preciosísima Sangre

Observe a los santos que se mencionan a continuación, quienes profesaban una profunda devoción a la Preciosísima Sangre:

- **San Pedro escribe:** «Saben que fueron rescatados de la vana manera de vivir heredada de sus padres, no con cosas perecederas como la plata o el oro, sino con la preciosa sangre de Cristo, como la de un cordero sin mancha ni defecto» (1 Pedro 1, 19).
- **Santa Catalina de Siena** escribió sobre la Preciosa Sangre de Jesús en su **Diálogo**, un relato escrito de sus visiones místicas. Siempre comenzaba sus cartas a obispos, cardenales y papas con el saludo: «Me dirijo a ustedes en la Preciosa Sangre de Jesucristo». La oración constante de Santa Catalina de Siena se reza así: «Preciosa Sangre, Océano de Divina Misericordia: ¡fluye sobre nosotros! Preciosa Sangre, Ofrenda purísima: ¡alcánzanos toda gracia! Preciosa Sangre, Esperanza y Refugio de los pecadores: ¡expía por nosotros! Preciosa Sangre, Delicia de las almas santas: ¡atráenos! Amén».
- **San Juan Crisóstomo** escribió el siguiente tributo a la Preciosísima Sangre: «Esta sangre, cuando se recibe dignamente, ahuyenta a los demonios, los mantiene alejados de nosotros e incluso atrae hacia nosotros a los ángeles y al Señor de los ángeles. Esta sangre, derramada en abundancia, ha purificado al mundo entero. Este es el precio del mundo; con ella, Cristo adquirió la Iglesia».
- **San Gaspar del Bufalo**, sacerdote del siglo XIX y fundador de los Misioneros de la Preciosísima Sangre, fue llamado por el Papa Juan XXIII «el mayor apóstol del mundo de la devoción a la Preciosísima Sangre de Jesús». San Gaspar dedicó su vida a predicar a los pobres y a la clase trabajadora, difundiendo entre los fieles y los numerosos conversos la devoción a la Preciosísima Sangre de Jesús. Su ferviente amor y veneración por la Preciosísima Sangre impulsaron su incansable labor. Convencido de que esta adoración tenía el poder de elevar el alma desde la infancia espiritual hasta las cumbres de la unión con Cristo, exclamó: «Jesús nos ha dado su Sangre hasta la última gota. ¿Qué queda por hacer? Jesús es víctima. ¡He aquí que estoy dispuesto, oh Dios mío, a ser víctima de amor!». Con espíritu misionero, expresó su deseo más profundo: «¡Ojalá tuviera mil lenguas para ganar todos los corazones para la Preciosísima Sangre de Jesús!».



July is the month dedicated to the Precious Blood!

This devotion to the sacred mystery of the Blood of Christ shed for humanity permeates the whole of the Catholic Faith and is worthy of our attentive meditation and deepest adoration.

Devotion to the Most Precious Blood by the saints and the faithful dates back to the beginnings of the Church. Many verses in sacred scripture honor the blood of Christ as the source of our salvation.

Pope Pius IX, while exiled during the Italian War for Independence, understood the great need for God's intervention and instituted the Feast of the Most Precious Blood to be celebrated in July 1849. Soon after the formal institution of the feast, the war ended and the Pope returned to Rome, his prayers having been answered. Soon the entire month of July became dedicated to the Most Precious Blood. The Church encourages all the faithful to honor and recognize with particular attention during July the blood of Jesus shed for us during His passion and crucifixion.

Catholic Saints & the Precious Blood

Note the saints below who held a deep devotion to the Precious Blood:

- **Saint Peter writes,** "You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your fathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot." (1 Peter 1:19)
- **St. Catherine of Siena** wrote about the Precious Blood of Jesus in her *Dialogue*—a written account of her mystical visions. She always began her letters to bishops, cardinals, & popes with the greeting, "I address you in the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ." The Constant Prayer of St. Catherine of Siena is recited as: "Precious Blood, Ocean of Divine Mercy: Flow upon us! Precious Blood, Most pure Offering: Procure us every Grace! Precious Blood, Hope and Refuge of sinners: Atone for us! Precious Blood, Delight of holy souls: Draw us! Amen."
- **St. John Chrysostom** wrote the following tribute to the Precious Blood "This blood, when worthily received, drives away demons & puts them at a distance from us & even summons to us angels and the Lord of angels. This blood, poured out in abundance, has washed the whole world clean. This is the price of the world; by it Christ purchased the Church."
- **St. Gaspar del Bufalo**, 19th-century priest & founder of Missionaries of the Precious Blood, was called "the world's greatest apostle of the devotion to the Most Precious Blood of Jesus," by Pope John XXIII. St. Gaspar spent his life preaching to the poor and working class, spreading devotion among the faithful and many converts to the Precious Blood of Jesus. His fervent love & reverence for the Precious Blood fueled his tireless endeavors. Convinced that this adoration held the power to take a soul from spiritual infancy to the heights of union with Christ, he exclaimed, "Jesus has given us His Blood even to the last drop. What is there left to do? Jesus is a victim. Behold I am ready, O my God, to be a victim of love!" In his missionary spirit, he expressed his deepest desire: "I wish that I could have a thousand tongues, to endear every heart to the Precious Blood of Jesus."

Source: <https://covenantcatholic.org/devotion-of-the-month/july-dedicated-to-the-precious-blood/>

**ADORATION**

Friday, July 24 | Follows 830A Mass
Adoration extended to 7:30p thru September

**MEN'S MINISTRY**

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

**LUMEN CHRISTI**

STM YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

CALLED INTO RELATIONSHIP WITH
JESUS CHRIST. ROOTED IN THE LIFE
AND TEACHINGS OF HIS CHURCH.
TOGETHER WE SHARE HIS LOVE WITH
OTHERS SO THAT THE LIGHT OF CHRIST
MAY ILLUMINATE THE WORLD.

NEXT MEETING

Aug. 6 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT:

Heidi & Justin | (530) 864-0809

**The Women's 1-Day Retreat
With Special Guest Speaker
Deacon Ray Helgeson**

**is Cancelled & will be
rescheduled for this Fall
2026. Questions? See
Cheryl Barron.**

**Office Hours
Change-back****Please Note!**

Effective Monday, July
20, STM returns to
normal business hours
Mon - Thurs., 9A to 2p

**Please Remember STM While On
Vacation!**

IT'S VACATION TIME! Summer is here. Time to throw your cares away and hit the road. Meanwhile, St. Thomas More Catholic Church will still need care & support while you're away. Please remember STM by contributing online while you're on vacation.

IT'S EASY! Simply use your smartphone camera to capture the QR code below and follow the prompts.

STM Online Giving QR Code

It's a convenient and flexible way to give to STM anytime, from anywhere! Our online giving platform accepts credit cards, bank transfers, and pay apps like Apple Pay, even bitcoin! Simply focus your smartphone's camera on the QR code (at left), click the link, and follow the prompts. Easy!

**Please stop by the KidzCorner at Party in
the Park this Wednesday July 22!**

St. Thomas More hosted the KidzCorner during Party in the Park in June and we had a great turn out! We will host one more this Wednesday July 22. Set up begins at 430p. We'd love the help!

It was extremely helpful to have the STM Youth Group along with several parishioners there for set up, and to help with games, prize handouts, rock painting and pack up. Coming to Party in the Park? Please stop by!