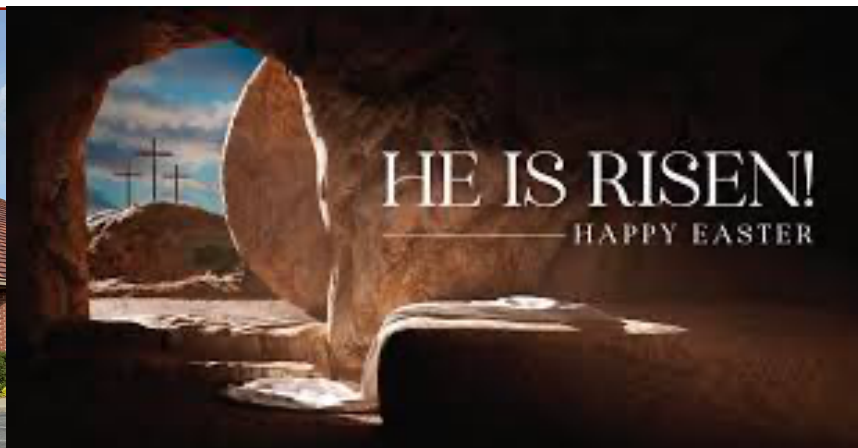


ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH



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

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 Acts 10:34a, 37-43

Psalms Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Éste es el día del triunfo del Señor. Aleluya.

2nd Reading Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians

5:6b-8

Gospel John 20:1-9

MASS INTENTIONS FOR EASTER & EASTER WEEK

Sunday; April 20	Tina Penna † Intentions of Barbara Brown	1030A
Domingo 20 de abril	Barbara Linquist †	1230P español
Tuesday; April 22	For Deacon Mike Mangan on his birthday	6P
Wed.; April 23	Juanita Rivera León (salúd)	830A
Thurs.; April 24	Annie Brutsman † For Scott Kelly on his birthday	830A
Friday; April 25	Abel Holguín Chávez † Ken Campbell †	830A

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR

Rod Montgomery
 Kimberly Steffen-Parkney
 Raul Saavedra
 Jose Raul Rivera
 Mary Anne Durant
 Isabel Rivera Leon
 Juanita Rivera León

Samia Zumout
 Greg DeCristofaro
 John Thomas
 Lourdes Collazo
 Carrie Sonsteng

Tim Steffen
 Elaine Little
 Ron Keyes
 Theresa Durant
 Sam Kempner

APRIL INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS

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 FRANCISCO

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.



Next Sunday, please support the Catholic Home Missions Appeal collection to help the more than 40% of dioceses in the U.S. and territories fund essential pastoral work their communities need.

This Week's Readings

THE OCTAVE OF EASTER

Monday; April 21st

1st Reading: Acts 2:14, 22-33
 Psalm 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11
Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.
 Gospel: Matthew 28:8-15

Tuesday; April 22nd

1st Reading: Acts 2:36-41
 Psalm 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22
The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.
 Gospel: John 20:11-18

Wednesday; April 23rd

1st Reading: Acts 3:1-10
 Psalm 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9
Rejoice, O hearts that seek the Lord.
 Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

Thursday; April 24th

1st Reading: Acts 3:11-26
 Psalm 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9
O Lord, our God, how wonderful your name in all the earth!
 Gospel: Luke 24:35-48

Friday; April 25th

1st Reading: Acts 4:1-12
 Psalm 118:1-2 and 4, 22-24, 25-27a
The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.
 Gospel: John 21:1-14

Saturday; April 26th

1st Reading: Acts 4:13-21
 Psalm 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21
I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me.
 Gospel: Mark 16:9-15



MEDITATION OF THE DAY

Be lifted up, O ancient doors!



In a certain way the message of the Resurrection of Christ notably exceeds our faculty of imagination. It cannot enter into our minds as immediately as the message of Christmas. Birth is part of our experience [and thus] the story of God's Son, born in a stable as the Son of Man, has the power to speak to our hearts directly.... The Resurrection, however, lies beyond our experience; the only life we know is bound up with death....

Out of the many biblical concepts the liturgy has used to illuminate the Paschal mystery, I will take just one which links Christmas and Easter.... We find it in Psalm 24: Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors! That the King of glory may come in.... Originally this whole psalm was sung during the solemn entry of the Sacred Ark into the Temple. The intention was to invite God to dwell in this house, to live among men, to become their neighbor and fellow inhabitant [and] transform the world of men into the world of God. At the same time people were aware of how improbable, how impossible, such a project must seem, for no human house is big enough to house God.... How could he possibly enter in? It seems that the human world has no doors opening toward God. It is locked in upon itself....

Be lifted up, O ancient doors! [This is] the cry of man in a world that is far too narrow, even if he can travel in spaceships to the moon and beyond. Christmas is only the first half of the Christian answer to this cry. Christmas tells us that there is not only the tyrant, death. There is God, who is Life, and this God can and will reach us. He has broken a way in to us.... But this answer is only complete if there is not only an entrance by which God can reach us but also an exit for us.... And this is the content of the message of Easter. Not only is there a door in, there is also a door out. Death is no longer a house with no exits, a place of no return. The ancient Church saw in this verse an interpretation of the article of faith "descended into hell," referring particularly to Holy Saturday.... The bolts of death's dungeon, of the world's dungeon, are wrenched off; the ramparts are thrown down; the gates are torn from their hinges. The one who has done this, Jesus, takes the long-imprisoned Adam and Eve, i.e., humanity, by the hand and leads them to freedom. Life is not a waiting room leading to the void but the beginning of eternity.... God does not live in a distant castle, nor does he hide himself behind impenetrable anterooms. The door is open; it is called Jesus Christ. The celebration of Easter is intended to show us the radiant light that streams from this door. —POPE BENEDICT XVI

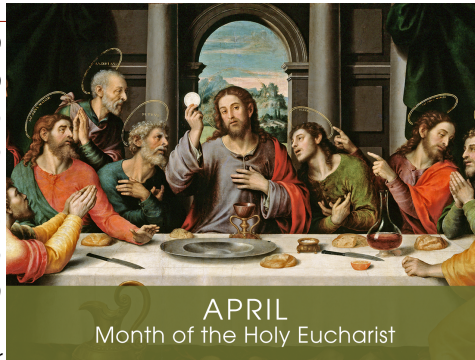
Pope Benedict XVI († 2022) reigned as pope from 2005 until 2013. / From *Seek That Which Is Above: Meditations through the Year*, Graham Harrison, tr. © 1986, Ignatius Press, San Francisco, CA. www.ignatius.com.

Excerpt from *Magnificat Magazine*, Meditation of the Day, April 20, 2025

HOMILY NOTES

El mes de abril está tradicionalmente dedicado a Jesús en el sacramento de la Sagrada Eucaristía.

La Iglesia Católica enseña que el Santísimo Sacramento es la presencia real y viva de Cristo –su Cuerpo, Sangre, Alma y Divinidad– que recibimos en nuestras almas con cada recepción de la Sagrada Comunión. Nuestro Señor Eucarístico es la fuente y cumbre de nuestra vida cristiana, la prueba suprema de su infinito amor por nosotros. Podemos profundizar nuestra devoción a la Eucaristía este mes asistiendo a la Adoración Eucarística (para profundizar nuestra relación con Cristo y expresar nuestro amor y gratitud por su sacrificio) y participando en el Santo Sacrificio de la Misa (que conmemora la Última Cena y el sacrificio de Cristo en la cruz). Durante este mes especial, considere inscribirse para un tiempo (¿30 minutos? ¿1 hora?) en adoración perpetua. El libro de inscripciones está sobre la mesa en el Nártex.



April is traditionally devoted to Jesus in the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.

The Catholic Church teaches that the Blessed Sacrament is the real and living presence of Christ –His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity– received into our souls with every reception of Holy Communion. Our Eucharistic Lord is the source and summit of our Christian life, the ultimate proof of His infinite love for us. We can deepen our devotion to the Eucharist this month

by attending Eucharistic Adoration (to deepen our relationship with Christ & express our love and gratitude for His sacrifice.) and by participating in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass (which commemorates the Last Supper & Christ's sacrifice on the cross.). During this special month consider signing up for time (30 mins? 1 hr?) in weekly adoration. The sign-up book is on the table in the Narthex.

ABOUT DIVINE MERCY

During the course of Jesus' revelations to Saint Faustina on the Divine Mercy He asked on numerous occasions that a feast day be dedicated to the Divine Mercy and that this feast be celebrated on the Sunday after Easter.

The feast was granted to the Universal Church by Pope John Paul II on the occasion of the canonization of Sr. Faustina on 30 April 2000. In a decree dated 23 May 2000, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments stated that "throughout the world, the Second Sunday of Easter will receive the name Divine Mercy Sunday, a perennial invitation to the Christian world to face, with confidence in divine benevolence, the difficulties and trials that mankind will experience in the years to come." The Sunday after Easter is the last day of the Easter Octave. This year, the feast is on April 27.

INDULGENCES

Concerning the Feast of Mercy, Jesus said:

Whoever approaches the Fountain of Life on this day will be granted complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. (Diary, 300)

I want the image solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it. (Diary, 341)

This Feast emerged from the very depths of My mercy, and it is confirmed in the vast depths of my tender mercies. (Diary, 420)

PRAYING THE CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

At three o'clock, implore My mercy, especially for sinners; and, if only for a brief moment, immerse yourself in My Passion, particularly in My abandonment at the moment of agony. This is the hour of great mercy ... In this hour I will refuse nothing to the soul that makes a request of Me in virtue of My Passion. (Diary, 1320)

Note: See insert About Praying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

Sources: <https://www.morningoffering.com/offering/04-01/>; <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/view.cfm?id=755>; <https://fhl.org/5-things-you-should-know-about-catholic-devotion-during-the-holy-month-of-april/#:~:text=The month of April is also dedicated to the Holy of Christ in the world.,https://catholic-link.org/april-is-devoted-to-the-blessed-sacrament-and-the-holy-spirit-mark-your-calendar/>

SOBRE LA MISERICORDIA DIVINA

Durante las revelaciones de Jesús a Santa Faustina sobre la Divina Misericordia, Él pidió en numerosas ocasiones que se dedicara un día festivo a la Divina Misericordia y que esta fiesta se celebrara el domingo después de Pascua.

La festividad fue concedida a la Iglesia Universal por el Papa Juan Pablo II con motivo de la canonización de Sor Faustina el 30 de abril de 2000. En un decreto del 23 de mayo de 2000, la Congregación para el Culto Divino y la Disciplina de los Sacramentos declaró que «en todo el mundo, el Segundo Domingo de Pascua recibirá el nombre de Domingo de la Divina Misericordia, una invitación perenne al mundo cristiano para afrontar, con confianza en la divina benevolencia, las dificultades y pruebas que la humanidad experimentará en los años venideros». El domingo después de Pascua es el último día de la Octava de Pascua. Este año, la festividad se celebra el 27 de abril.

INDULGENCIAS

Con respecto a la Fiesta de la Misericordia, Jesús dijo:

Quien se acerque a la Fuente de la Vida en este día recibirá el perdón completo de los pecados y del castigo. (Diario, 300)

Quiero que la imagen sea bendecida solemnemente el primer domingo después de Pascua, y que sea venerada públicamente para que toda alma la conozca. (Diario, 341)

Esta Fiesta surgió de lo más profundo de Mi misericordia y se confirma en la inmensa profundidad de Mis tiernas misericordias. (Diario, 420)

REZANDO LA CORONILLA DE LA DIVINA MISERICORDIA

A las tres, implora mi misericordia, especialmente por los pecadores; y, aunque sea por un breve instante, sumérgete en mi Pasión, particularmente en mi abandono en el momento de agonía. Esta es la hora de la gran misericordia... En esta hora no negaré nada al alma que me lo pida en virtud de mi Pasión. (Diario, 1320)

Nota: Ver inserto Acerca de la oración de la Coronilla de la Divina

Carlos Acutis Canonization Set for April 27

Thousands are expected at the canonization service in St. Peter's Square on April 27 for Carlos Acutis, the first millennial saint. Acutis, who learned several computer coding languages & developed websites for his parish and the wider Church, died from leukemia at age 15 in 2006. As his reputation for devotion grew & he was moved along the official path to sainthood, his body was moved to Assisi in line with his last wishes. He was entombed in a wax mold of his likeness, wearing his track top, jeans, & trainers. Miracles were reported after his death and attributed to his intercession with God. Church officials cite the healing of a 4-year-old Brazilian boy with a serious pancreatic malformation & a 21-year-old Costa Rican woman who was near death after a bike accident. Their mothers had prayed to Acutis for help, Vatican authorities said.

The Women of STM Elect New Officers

The Women of St. Thomas More group elected new officers for the 2025-26 church year. Congratulations ladies and thank you for your willingness to step up and take on these duties!



Madeline Riley
President



Suzanne Boyd
Vice President



Cheryl Barron
Chaplain &
Secretary

***FY!!** All women parishioners of St. Thomas More are automatic members of this group. We meet on the third Saturday of the month at IOA and we publish a meeting reminder in the bulletin. It's a fun, lively, spirit-filled group. You'd love it.*



**ST. THOMAS MORE WILL HOST A
MINISTRY FAIR SUNDAY MAY 4
AFTER 1030A MASS UNTIL 230P**

St. Thomas More will host its first Ministry Fair in over six years, since before the Camp Fire, to showcase and promote the variety of ministries, programs, and volunteer opportunities within our church community.

This is your chance to learn about different areas of service, connect with ministry leaders, and explore opportunities to serve.

The Ministry Fair will be held in the Hall after the 1030A Mass and will continue until 230P.

We'll have snacks and drinks, and offer you a chance to get answers to those burning questions about the why, the what, and how you can get involved. So mark your calendar! May 4 - it will be fun!

Happy Easter! Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

Jubilee Resources to Inspire Us as Pilgrims of Hope this Easter

We are called to be messengers of this Good News and pilgrims of hope this Easter season and throughout the Jubilee Year. We invite you, your family, and your faith communities to dive deeper into the Jubilee Year by checking out the video resources now available on the Jubilee page of the diocesan website <https://www.scd.org/Jubilee2025>

To help you live out the three diocesan themes of the Jubilee Year: 1) To see God, 2) To be living stones in His temple, and 3) To unite all creation in Christ, visit Youtube to see an excellent homily by our own Bishop Jaime Soto available in two languages:

English: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p35wPtKFs3E>

Spanish: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=alm-YFPYDw&t=18s>

You can also learn from three other great presenters (Fr. Mauricio Hurtado, Armando Cervantes, and Miriam Sammartino) also accessible via the diocesan website and via the links below:

Theme 1: To See God - Fr. Mauricio Hurtado

English: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hnYLzadkTpg>

Spanish: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fEq6YEaUEJl>

Theme 2: To Be Living Stones In His Temple - Armando Cervantes

English: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RogkgQKGN8M&t=2s>

Spanish: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tsV9rCDiWZ0>

Theme 3: To Unite All Creation In Christ - Miriam Sammartino

English: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=57m6J3fri0s&t=4s>

Spanish: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j7uWd6Nhkco>



**YOUNG CATHOLIC
PROFESSIONALS**
Working in Witness for Christ™

YCP is Coming to Sacramento and Needs Your Help!

YCP (Young Catholic Professionals) is in need of young professionals (20-39 years old), seasoned professionals (40+ years old), and chaplains (priests, deacons or religious) to run the chapter. We are also looking for financial contribution to host high quality events such as Retreats, Networking Happy Hour, and Executive Speaker Events.

YCP equips young workers in their 20s and 30s to take true ownership of their faith in the workplace; thereby enabling them to Work in Witness for Christ to all whom they meet.

It would be awesome to have a chapter in the Paradise, Chico, Oroville area!

To learn more or hear when the SAC chapter launches, sign up at <https://www.youngcatholicprofessionals.org/chapter-index>

Catholic Home Missions Appeal Collection Next Sunday April 27

40% of dioceses in the U.S. & its territories can't fund the essential pastoral work their communities need. Please support this appeal April 27 to help meet their faith formation & sacramental needs.