

# ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH


[www.stmparadise.org](http://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***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** *Genesis 18:1-10a***Psalm** *15:2-3, 3-4, 5**He who does justice will live in the presence of the**¿Quién será grato a tus ojos, Señor?***2nd Reading** *Colossians 1:24-28***Gospel** *Luke 10:38-42*

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 20<sup>TH</sup>

<i>Sunday; July 20</i>	<i>For the Intentions of Art Sanchez</i>	<i>1030A</i>
	<i>For the Intentions of Maresa &amp; Scott Kelly</i>	
<i>Domingo 20 de julio</i>	<i>Cumpleaños de Nataly Ortiz</i>	<i>1230P español</i>
<i>Tuesday; July 22</i>	<i>For the Parishioners of STM</i>	<i>6P</i>
<i>Wed.; July 23</i>	<i>Fr. Michael McFadden †</i>	<i>830A</i>
<i>Thurs.; July 24</i>	<i>Fr. Michael McFadden †</i>	<i>830A</i>
<i>Friday; July 25</i>	<i>Fr. Michael McFadden †</i>	<i>830A</i>

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR

*Rod Montgomery*  
*Kimberly Steffen-Parkney*  
*Raul Saavedra*  
*Jose Raul Rivera*  
*Mary Anne Durant*  
*Isabel Rivera Leon*  
*Andrea Inzunza*  
*Marlene Woodard*

*Samia Zumout*  
*Greg DeCristofaro*  
*John Thomas*  
*Lourdes Collazo*  
*Carrie Sonsteng*  
*Art Sanchez*

*Tim Steffen*  
*Elaine Little*  
*Ron Keyes*  
*Theresa Durant*  
*Sam Kempner*  
*Richard Carmack*

## JULY INTENTIONS OF POPE LEO XIV

*For formation in discernment*

*Let us pray that we might again learn how to discern, to know how to  
 choose paths of life and reject everything that leads us away from  
 Christ and the Gospel.*

## INTENCIONES DE JULIO DEL PAPA LEÓN XIV

*Para la formación en el discernimiento*

*Oremos para que sepamos de nuevo discernir, saber elegir caminos de  
 vida y rechazar todo lo que nos aleja de Cristo y del Evangelio.*

**Special Presentation by Fr. Chuck! See back page for more info!**

## This Week's Readings

### SIXTEENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

#### Monday; July 21<sup>st</sup>

1st Reading: Exodus 14:5-18

Psalm Exodus 15:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6

*Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.*

Gospel: Matthew 12:38-42

#### Tuesday; July 22<sup>nd</sup> 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

#### Wednesday; July 23<sup>rd</sup>

1st Reading: Exodus 16:1-5, 9-15

Psalm 78:18-19, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28

*The Lord gave them bread from heaven.*

Gospel: Matthew 13:1-9

#### Thursday; July 24<sup>th</sup>

1st Reading: Exodus 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b

Psalm Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56

*Glory and praise for ever!*

Gospel: Matthew 13:10-17

#### Friday; July 25<sup>th</sup> 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

#### Saturday; July 26<sup>th</sup> MEMORIAL OF SAINTS JOACHIM & ANNE, PARENTS OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN

1st Reading: Exodus 24:3-8

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

*Offer to God a sacrifice of praise.*

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30

## MEDITATION OF THE DAY

### How to Unify the Activities of Our Life



**Lord, you have given me a model for prayer:** the Our Father. It is brief, concise, and packed with meaning. Your life, Lord, is a sincere and simple prayer addressed to your Father. Your prayer was sometimes long, like your ardent and spontaneous prayer after the Last Supper. But often your words, those of your Mother and apostles, were brief, linking together the actions of daily life. I, who often feel weak and indifferent, love to recall those brief prayers before the Eucharist, at my desk, in the street, alone. **The more I repeat them, the more they penetrate me. I am close to you, Lord.**

Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.

Father, that they may be one.

I am the handmaid of the Lord.

They have no wine.

Behold your son, behold your Mother!

Remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

Lord, what do you want me to do?

Lord, you know all things, you know that I love you.

Lord, have mercy on me, a poor sinner.

**All of these brief prayers, linked one to another, form a life of prayer.** Like a chain of discreet gestures, glances, and intimate words, they form a life of love. They keep us in an atmosphere of prayer not distracting us from our present tasks, but helping us to live our day more conscious of God. —VENERABLE FRANCIS XAVIER NGUYỄN VĂN THUÂN

Cardinal Nguyễn Văn Thuận († 2002) was imprisoned by the Vietnamese government for thirteen years, during which time he secretly sent prayers and spiritual writings to his flock. / From *Prayers of Hope: Words of Courage*, English edition. Copyright © 2012, Daughters of St. Paul/Pauline Books & Media, Boston, MA. All rights reserved.

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

## HOMILY NOTES





**Julio está dedicado a la Preciosísima Sangre de Nuestro Señor.**

La Fiesta de la Preciosísima Sangre (1 de julio) fue instituida formalmente en 1849 por el Papa Pío IX, quien se encontraba exiliado de Roma en ese momento. Tuvo como compañero a Don Giovanni Merlini, tercer general de la Congregación de la Preciosísima Sangre de Jesucristo. Este santo sacerdote sugirió al Papa que hiciera voto de dar la fiesta de la Preciosísima Sangre a toda la Iglesia, si recuperaba el territorio papal. Sin comprometerse con el voto, el Papa inmediatamente extendió la fiesta a toda la Iglesia. En el antiguo calendario se celebraba el 1 de julio, pero los católicos [hoy] continúan esta tradición aumentando su devoción a la Preciosísima Sangre durante todo el mes de julio.

**UNA OBLIGACIÓN: LA DEVOCIÓN A LA PRECIOSA SANGRE**

Los primeros Padres afirman que la Iglesia nació del costado traspasado de Cristo y que los sacramentos fueron traídos a través de su Sangre, lo que convierte esta devoción a la Preciosa Sangre en una obligación espiritual para todos los seguidores de Cristo. Las devociones pueden ser difíciles hoy en día con el crecimiento del secularismo; sin embargo, comprender sus beneficios debería fortalecer nuestra determinación. Véase más abajo.

**Perdón** Por medio de la sangre de Jesús, recibimos el perdón de nuestros pecados. En él tenemos redención por su sangre, el perdón de nuestras transgresiones según las riquezas de su gracia. –Efesios 1:7

**Limpieza** Pero si andamos en la luz, como él está en la luz, entonces tenemos comunión unos con otros, y la sangre de su Hijo Jesucristo nos limpia de todo pecado. –1 Juan 1:7

**Redención** Porque la paga del pecado es muerte, mas la dádiva de Dios es vida eterna en Cristo Jesús Señor nuestro. – Romanos 6:23

**Justificación** ¿Cuánto más, pues, habiendo sido ya justificados por su sangre, seremos salvos por él de la ira? –Romanos 5:9

**Santificación** Porque no nos llamó Dios a impureza, sino a santidad. – 1 Tesalonicenses 4:7  
...sino, como aquel que os llamó es santo, sed también vosotros santos en toda vuestra manera de vivir, 16 porque escrito está: «Sed santos, porque yo soy santo». – 1 Pedro 1:15-16  
Pero ustedes son linaje escogido, real sacerdocio, nación santa, pueblo adquirido por Dios, para que anuncien las virtudes de aquel que los llamó de las tinieblas a su luz admirable. –1 Pedro 2:9

**Paz** Por tanto, habiendo sido justificados por la fe, tenemos paz con Dios por medio de nuestro Señor Jesucristo. –Romanos 5:1  
Pero ahora en Cristo Jesús, ustedes que en otro tiempo estaban lejos, han sido hechos cercanos por la sangre de Cristo. 14 Porque él es nuestra paz, quien de ambos pueblos hizo uno, derribando la pared intermedia de enemistad mediante su carne, 15 aboliendo la ley con sus mandamientos y preceptos legales, para crear en sí mismo de los dos una nueva persona\*, estableciendo así la paz, 16 y reconciliar con Dios a ambos en un solo cuerpo mediante la cruz, dando muerte por ella a la enemistad. –Efesios 2:13-16

**Acceso a Dios** Acerquémonos, pues, confiadamente al trono de la gracia para alcanzar misericordia y hallar gracia para el oportuno socorro. –Hebreos 4:16



**July is dedicated to the Most Precious Blood of Our Lord.**

The Feast of the Precious Blood (July 1) was formally instituted in 1849 by Pope Pius IX who was in exile from Rome at that time. His companion Don Giovanni Merlini, the third general of the Congregation of the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ, suggested to the pope that he make a vow to give the feast of the Precious Blood to the entire church, if he should regain the papal territory. Without binding himself by the vow, the pope immediately extended the feast to the whole Church. On the old calendar it was celebrated July 1, but Catholics [today] continue this tradition by increasing their devotion to the most precious Blood for the entire month of July.

**OBLIGATION & BENEFITS : DEVOTION TO THE PRECIOUS BLOOD**

The early Fathers say that the Church was born from the pierced side of Christ & that the sacraments were brought forth thru His Blood which makes devotion to the Precious Blood a spiritual obligation for every follower of Christ. Devotions can be difficult in today's society as secularism grows; however, understanding their benefits (listed below) strengthen our resolve to honor this obligation.

**Forgiveness** Through Jesus's blood, we receive forgiveness for their sins. In him we have redemption by his blood, the forgiveness of transgressions, in accord with the riches of his grace. –Ephesians 1:7

**Cleansing** But if we walk in the light as he is in the light, then we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of his Son Jesus cleanses us from all sin. –1John1:7

**Redemption** For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. –Romans 6:23

**Justification** How much more then, since we are now justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath. – Romans 5:9

**Sanctification** For God did not call us to impurity but to holiness. –1 Thessalonians 4:7  
...but, as He who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in every aspect of your conduct, 16 for it is written, "Be holy because I [am] holy." –1 Peter 1:15-16  
But you are "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own, so that you may announce the praises" of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. –1 Peter 2:9

**Peace** Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God thru our Lord Jesus Christ, –Romans 5:1  
But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have become near by the blood of Christ. 14 For he is our peace, he who made both one and broke down the dividing wall of enmity, thru his flesh, 15 abolishing the law with its commandments and legal claims, that he might create in himself one new person\* in place of the two, thus establishing peace, 16 and might reconcile both with God, in one body, through the cross, putting that enmity to death by it. –Ephesians 2:13-16

**Access to God** So let us confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy and to find grace for timely help. –Hebrews 4:16



## LIVING in the DIVINE WILL!

**Fr. Chuck will give a presentation on Jesus' revelation to Luisa Piccarreta on the gift of living in God's own divine life.**

How do I live  
in God's  
Divine Will?

**Friday, August 1  
6:00-7:30p  
in the Church**

What does it  
mean to live  
in the Divine  
Will?

**What is the Divine Will of God?**

*Luisa Piccarreta was a Catholic mystic & member of the Third Order of Saint Dominic. Her writings and spirituality centered on union with the will of God. Her cause for canonization is currently in process.*

## Vivir en la DIVINA VOLUNTAD!

Karla Lombardi, de Guadalajara, experta en la Divina Voluntad, va a compartir con nosotros este gran don que Dios nos esta ofreciendo en nuestros tiempos. Todos invitados!

Cuando: Viernes, 1 Agosto, 6:00-8:00 pm  
Sábado, 2 Agosto, 10:00-3:00 pm, almuerzo incluido  
Donde: Parroquia de Santo Thomas Moro, Paradise  
Costo: \$10 para el almuerzo el sábado. Viernes es gratis



## 2025 Jubilee of Hope Upcoming Events

### Quo Vadis Retreat-Boys Ages 13 to 17

Where Are You Going? Boys ages 13-17 will learn about the Priesthood, Diaconate and Married Life. The two-day retreat will be in-person. There will be time for fellowship, games, Mass, and prayer about their vocation.

**Friday  
Aug. 1  
to  
Sat.  
Aug. 2**

St. Joseph Parish  
9961 Elk Grove-Florin Rd.  
Elk Grove, CA. 95624

Schedule for the Weekend:


- Friday: 4pm to 9pm
- Saturday: 8am to 8pm

Registration Fee: \$95  
Includes Dinner on Friday  
Lunch & Dinner on Saturday  
Lunch on Sunday  
(NOTE! fee increases to \$100 after July 18)

**This is not an overnight retreat!**

**Must register by July 25.**

Visit [www.scd.org/quovadis](http://www.scd.org/quovadis) to register.  
Questions? Call 916.733.0258 or email [msmith@scd.org](mailto:msmith@scd.org)




### Carlo Acutis & Pier Giorgio Frassati to be Canonized Sept. 7

Blessed Carlo Acutis & Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, two young Catholics beloved for their vibrant faith and witness to holiness, will be canonized together on Sept. 7 in a canonization Mass in St. Peter's Square.

Acutis, who died of leukemia in 2006 at age 15, will become the first millennial to be declared a saint by the Catholic Church. Shortly before his death, Acutis offered his suffering from cancer "for the pope & for the Church." Many testified to the Vatican how he brought them closer to God.

Frassati, an avid mountaineer, who died at age 24 in 1925, is also beloved by many today for his enthusiastic witness to holiness that reaches "to the heights." A Third Order Dominican, known for his charitable outreach, was son of the founder of Italian newspaper La Stampa. Frassati died of polio on July 4, 1925, which his doctors later speculated was caught while serving the sick.





### Attention Men of STM!

Please join Deacon Tom O'Connell for the **Men's Ministry**  
Friday | 7A | in the Hall  
(go to the small room)



**Reminder  
Adoration**  
Friday immediately following  
830A Mass until 6p.