

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-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 Amos 8:4-7

Psalm 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8

Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

Que alaben al Señor todos sus siervos.

2nd Reading 1 Timothy 2:1-8

Gospel Luke 16:1-13 or 16:10-13

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 21ST

Sunday; September 21

Ramón Jr. † & Rose Reyes †
Gertrude Valentine †

1030A

Domingo; 21 de septiembre

Personas de STM

1230P español

Tuesday; Sept. 23

Teresa Sanchez †

6P

Wed.; Sept. 24

Raúl & Helvia Saavedra

830A

Thurs.; Sept. 25

Edgar Rivera (cumpleaños)

830A

Friday; Sept. 26

Pablo & Cecilia Collazo †

830A

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR

Rod Montgomery
Raul Saavedra
Jose Raul Rivera
Mary Anne Durant
Isabel Rivera Leon
Andrea Inzunza
Joan Memmer
Leo Benedetti

Samia Zumout
Greg DeCristofaro
John Thomas
Carrie Sonsteng
Art Sanchez
Leilani McManus
James McManus

Tim Steffen
Elaine Little
Ron Keyes
Theresa Durant
Sam Kempner
Richard Carmack
Helvia Saavedra
Lily Tomkowitz

SEPTEMBER INTENTIONS OF POPE LEO XIV

For Our Relationship with All Of Creation

Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

INTENCIONES DE SEPTIEMBRE DEL PAPA LEÓN XIV

Por nuestra relación con toda la creación

Oremos para que, inspirados por San Francisco, experimentemos nuestra interdependencia con todas las criaturas amadas por Dios y dignas de amor y respeto.

This Week's Readings

TWENTY-FIFTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Monday; Sept. 22nd

1st Reading: Ezra 1:1-6

Psalm 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6

The Lord has done marvels for us.

Gospel: Luke 8:16-18

Tuesday; Sept. 23rd MEMORIAL OF SAINT PIUS OF PIETRELICINA, PRIEST

1st Reading: Ezra 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20

Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Gospel: Luke 8:19-21

Wednesday; Sept. 24th

1st Reading: Ezra 9:5-9

Psalm Tobit 13:2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8

Blessed be God, who lives for ever.

Gospel: Luke 9:1-6

Thursday; September 25th

1st Reading: Haggai 1:1-8

Psalm 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b

The Lord takes delight in his people.

Gospel: Luke 9:7-9

Friday; September 26th

1st Reading: Haggai 2:1-9

Psalm 43:1, 2, 3, 4

Hope in God; I will praise him, my savior and my God.

Gospel: Luke 9:18-22

Saturday; Sept. 27th MEMORIAL OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL, PRIEST

1st Reading: Zechariah 2:5-9, 14-15a

Psalm Jeremiah 31:10, 11-12ab, 13

The Lord will guard us as a shepherd guards his flock.

Gospel: Luke 9:43b-45

Sunday; September 28th

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Psalm 146:7, 8-9, 9-10

Praise the Lord, my soul!

2nd Reading: 1 Timothy 6:11-16

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

MEDITATION OF THE DAY

How to Prepare for Eternal Dwellings



Many people would give a great deal if they could lengthen their lives, though not in order to become more perfect but simply to live longer. For many people death is something fearsome. Although for us Catholics death no longer has its sting, there are still many of us who readily put up with everything only because we do not want to die. Death was something fearsome until Christ opened heaven's door for us & left for us many means of grace so that we can more easily attain eternal happiness.... Satan will risk everything

with many people in order to rob us at the last moment of eternal happiness....

However, we can pray fifty times or more each day: "Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us poor sinners now and at the hour of our deaths. Amen." Is it likely that the Blessed Mother will abandon us in our final hour if we say this prayer each day?...

Consider how fortunate many people would feel if someone were to give them an entire kingdom. Couldn't we compare such a gift with a single worthy reception of Communion? Yet not for long, for if someone could give us the entire world with all of its wealth and kingdoms, this would still be nothing in relation to a single, worthy reception of Communion. Think now about how infinitely fortunate we are to be able to go often to the table of the Lord.... Surely in every host there is the same Christ who contains the same high value. It can dawn on us how the reception of Communion will enrich us....

We must be ready therefore to give God everything: property and goods, body and soul. We must even be entirely prepared to die.... If we are able to approach the table of the Lord with such a willingness and surrender to God, then God will allow his wealth of grace to be imparted to us in the richest measure. So true peace and happiness will enter into our hearts. After every reception of Communion, we should say the following prayer: "My Lord and my God, I accept death whenever, wherever, and however it may encounter me according to your most holy decree. I accept it willingly with all of its anxieties, pains, and sufferings, and I receive it out of your fatherly hands." – 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. All rights reserved.

Excerpt from Magnificat Magazine, Meditation of the Day, September 21, 2025

HOMILY NOTES

La devoción a Nuestra Señora de los Dolores destaca el mes de septiembre.

Esta devoción nos fue dada por Santa Brígida de Suecia (1303-1373), a quien se le reveló que la devoción a los Siete Dolores de la Santísima Virgen traería grandes gracias. Santo Tomás Moro celebrará la Conmemoración de Nuestra Señora de los Dolores el martes 16 de septiembre en la misa de las 18:00 (que sigue al sacramento de la reconciliación).

La devoción a Nuestra Señora de los Dolores se convirtió en un estándar en la Iglesia alrededor del siglo XIV y varios Papas la fomentaron.

El domingo pasado compartimos las siete gracias que la Santísima Virgen María reveló a Santa Brígida de Suecia (1303-1373) y que serían concedidas a las almas que la honraran diariamente rezando siete Avemarías y meditando en sus lágrimas y dolores.

Este domingo compartimos las revelaciones complementarias que San Alfonso María de Liguori testifica que fueron dadas por Nuestro Señor a Santa Isabel de Hungría (1207-1231), en las que Jesús promete además cuatro gracias especiales a quienes se dedican a los sufrimientos de la madre corredentora.

LAS CUATRO GRACIAS ESPECIALES QUE JESÚS PROMETE

1. Jesús promete que quienes antes de morir invoquen a la Santísima Madre en nombre de sus dolores obtendrán el verdadero arrepentimiento de todos sus pecados.
2. Jesús promete que protegerá en sus tribulaciones a todos los que recuerden esta devoción, y que los guardará especialmente en la hora de la muerte.
3. Jesús promete que grabará en sus mentes el recuerdo de su Pasión y que recibirán su recompensa por ella en el Cielo.
4. Jesús promete que encomendará a estos devotos clientes en manos de María para que Ella obtenga para estas almas todas las gracias que Ella quiere prodigarles.

En una locución (una forma de revelación privada) recibida por la mística belga Berthe Petit (1870-1943), Jesús explica las gracias especiales (arriba) otorgadas a través de la devoción al Corazón Doloroso e Inmaculado de María. A Berthe Petit, nuestro Señor le dijo de estas cuatro gracias especiales que "Esta devoción al Corazón Doloroso e Inmaculado de Mi madre restaurará la fe y la esperanza a los corazones rotos y a las familias arruinadas; ayudará a reparar la destrucción; endulzará el dolor. Será una nueva fuerza para Mi Iglesia, llevando a las almas no solo a la confianza en Mi Corazón sino también al abandono al Corazón Doloroso de Mi madre".

FUENTE: <https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/library/seven-dolors-of-the-blessed-virgin-mary-5437> ; <https://www.catholiccompany.com/pages/the-seven-sorrows-of-mary> ; <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/view.cfm?id=762>

FUENTE de ORACIÓN: <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/>



The Devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows highlights of the month of September.

This devotion is given to us by St. Bridget of Sweden (1303-1373) to whom it was revealed that devotion to the Blessed Virgin's Seven Sorrows would bring great graces. St. Thomas More will celebrate the Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows on Tuesday, Sept. 16 at the 6p Mass (which follows the sacrament of reconciliation.)

Devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows became a standard in the Church around the 14th century with several Popes encouraging it.

Last Sunday we shared the seven graces The Blessed Virgin Mary revealed to St. Bridget of Sweden (1303-1373) that would be granted to the souls who honor her daily by saying seven Aves and meditating on her tears and dolours (sorrows).

This Sunday we share the complementary revelations St. Alphonsus de Liguori testifies to that were given by Our Lord to St. Elizabeth of Hungary (1207-1231) in which Jesus further promises four special graces to those dedicated to the sufferings of the co-redeeming mother.

THE FOUR SPECIAL GRACES JESUS PROMISES

1. Jesus promises that those who, before death, invoke the Blessed Mother in the name of her sorrows should obtain true repentance of all their sins.
2. Jesus promises that He would protect in their tribulations all who remember this devotion, and that He would guard them especially at the hour of death.
3. Jesus promises that He would impress upon their minds the remembrance of His Passion, and that they should have their reward for it in Heaven.
4. Jesus promises that He would commit such devout clients into the hands of Mary so that she might obtain for these souls all the graces she wanted to lavish upon them.

In a locution (a form of private revelation) received by the Belgian mystic Berthe Petit (1870-1943), Jesus explains the special graces (above) granted thru devotion to Mary's Sorrowful & Immaculate Heart. To Berthe Petit, our Lord has said of these four special graces that "This devotion to the Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of My mother will restore faith and hope to broken hearts and to ruined families; it will help to repair the destruction; it will sweeten sorrow. It will be a new strength for My Church, bringing souls not only to confidence in My Heart but also to abandonment to the Sorrowful Heart of My mother."

SOURCE: <https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/library/seven-dolors-of-the-blessed-virgin-mary-5437> ; <https://www.catholiccompany.com/pages/the-seven-sorrows-of-mary> ; <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/view.cfm?id=762>

Prayer Source: <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/view.cfm?id=762>

Respect For Life Fall Fast & Pray
Starts This Week on Sept. 24



Beginning this Wednesday, Sept. 24, we will pray and fast on the sidewalk at the locations listed below. Note the days and time. We will continue this vigil through Sunday, Nov. 2., to save lives and souls!

Day	Time	Location
Wednesdays	8A to 5P	Women's Health Specialist abortion facility. 1469 Humboldt, Chico
Fridays	11A to 5P	Planned Parenthood, 3100 Cohasset Rd., Chico, CA. 95973

We are taking this approach instead of 40 Days For Life in an effort to get more people out at one time. Jesus needs our help! According to the Guttmacher Institute's Monthly Abortion Provision Study, an estimated 1,038,000 abortions were performed in the U.S. in 2024! Please consider being the hands & feet of Jesus thru prayer & peaceful witness at one or both of the sites listed above. You can just show up or call 530.519.8818 or email 40dayschico@gmail.com Also check with Kathy DeCristofaro for more information.

Join the Women of STM this Saturday!
Sixth Annual Chocolate and Wine Festival!

Saturday | Sept. 20 | 3p to 6p

Today is the Last Day to Get Your Ticket
Don't Miss Out!

Food | Music | Chocolate | Wine | Raffle | Silent Auction



NOW IN SESSION! THURSDAYS at 1P

A new Ladies Bible Study is in full swing! Meetings are Thursday at 1p in the Hall. Haven't joined yet? It's not too late. The next session is this Thursday, Sept. 25, at 1p in the Hall.

The ladies are studying the New Testament, Gospel of Mark, and use a study guide written by Scott Hahn and Curtis Mitch. The guide is well written and provides a great deal of information and stimulation for discussion. For questions and to pick up a study guide call Gail Crowley 530.570-8474 or Louise Kyle 530.720-1061.

Newest Saints Featured on STM Website!



Check out the links to our new Saints, Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati, on the parish website at <https://stmparadise.org/>

The STM website celebrates the canonization of Pier Giorgio Frassati and Carlo Acutis. Visit our

website to find info on both saints plus a link to St. Carlo Acutis' Eucharistic Miracles display.

Both saints had a great sense of humor during their brief lives. Pier Giorgio Frassati (April 6, 1901 – July 4, 1925), the mountaineering "Man of the Beatitudes," was also the prank mastermind of his friend group, the Tipi Loschi. On retreats, he was notorious for short-sheeting beds – including those of the priests (the temerity!).

Decades later, Carlo Acutis (May 3, 1991 – Oct. 12, 2006) carried that same joyful mischief. Not a perfect student... sometimes forgot his homework or showed up late but had a 'healthy curiosity' and 'wanted to get to the bottom of things'... Religion classes for Carlo were moments when "he was more passionate than others and more alive. To learn more visit <https://stmparadise.org/> and learn about the lives and miracles of these two newest saints.

Source: https://aleteia.org/2025/09/07/the-one-trait-pier-giorgio-and-carlo-shared-that-makes-them-so-relatable/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=sendgrid&utm_campaign=EM-EN-Newsletter-Daily-&utm_content=Newsletter&utm_term=20250907



REMINDER - ADORATION - Friday
Immediately following 830A Mass until 6p.



REMINDER: MEN'S MINISTRY- Friday, 7A
In the Hall (Go to the small room)

World Youth Day (WYD) August 3-8, 2027

World Youth Day is Aug. 3-8, 2027, in Seoul, Korea. It will be here before you know it! This is an incredible celebration of the Youth & Young Adults in the Church. Building upon the scriptural themes of previous celebrations, this event isn't just a coming together of churches, it's an international celebration! WYD celebrates both the profound unity of being members of the Body of Christ and the diversity of the gifts contained therein.

Our Diocese is working on plans for WYD 2027 and wants to hear from any parish or Apostolic Movement planning to participate. For info click <https://bit.ly/wyd2027> to sign up for updates. Questions? Contact Alex Barraza at abarraza@scd.org or call 916.733.0184.

Visit the Official WYD website at <https://wydseoul.org/en>

