

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*

Parish Steward *Greg Kidder*

Secretary *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 and 1159P (Midnight) Mass

Wed 1030A Eng.; 1230p Español | *Thur & Fri 830A*

Sunday Readings

1st Reading *Micah 5:1-4a*

Psalm *80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19.*

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Señor, muéstranos tu favor y sálvanos.

2nd Reading *Hebrews 10:5-10*

Gospel *Luke 1:39-45*



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 22ND

<i>Sunday; Dec. 22</i>	<i>Deceased members of the Valentine family †</i>	<i>1030A</i>
<i>Domingo; 22 dic</i>	<i>Julian Gabriel Andrade †</i>	<i>1230P español</i>
<i>Tuesday; Dec. 24</i>	<i>Almas benditas del purgatorio †</i>	<i>6P</i>
	<i>Larry Campbell †</i>	<i>Midnight</i>
<i>Wed.; Dec. 25</i>	<i>Al Pena †</i>	<i>1030A</i>
<i>Thurs.; Dec. 26</i>	<i>Jim & Lani McManus</i>	<i>830A</i>
<i>Friday; Dec. 27</i>	<i>Robert Battaglia †</i>	<i>830A</i>

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR

*Karla Valenzuela
Cathy Larsen
Lorraine Carr
Angela Babcock
Sharon Calboun
Nancy Cornett
Linda Alberghotti
Amanda McDonald
Patrick Wallenan*

*Mary Braddick
Carrie Sue Sonsteng
Sam Kempner
Tylor Koski
Victor Furrer
Kimberly Helgeson Avoy
Denise Helgeson*

*Joyce Finch
Rod Montgomery
David Porter
Barbara Maldonado
Lora Ginn
Senona Gonzalez
Samia Zumout
Karen Reynolds
Don H*

DECEMBER INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS

For pilgrims of hope

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthens our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

INTENCIONES DE DICIEMBRE DEL PAPA FRANCISCO

Para los peregrinos de la esperanza

Oramos para que este Año Jubilar fortalezca nuestra fe, ayudándonos a reconocer a Cristo Resucitado en nuestra vida diaria, y que nos transforme en peregrinos de la esperanza cristiana.

This Week's Readings

FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT

Monday; December 23rd

1st Reading: Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24

Psalm 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14

Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is near at hand.

Gospel: Luke 1:57-66

**TUESDAY OF THE 4TH
WEEK OF ADVENT
MASS IN THE
MORNING**

Tuesday; December 24th

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

Psalm 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Gospel: Luke 1:67-79

**THE NATIVITY OF THE
LORD (CHRISTMAS)
MASS DURING THE
DAY**

Wednesday; Dec. 25th

1st Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10

Psalm 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6

All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

2nd Reading: Hebrews 1:1-6

Gospel: John 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

Thursday; December 26th **FEAST OF SAINT STEPHEN, FIRST MARTYR**

1st Reading: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59

Psalm 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Gospel: Matthew 10:17-22

Friday; December 27th

1st Reading: 1 John 1:1-4

Psalm 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12

Rejoice in the Lord, you just!

Gospel: John 20:1a and 2-8

**FEAST OF SAINT
JOHN, APOSTLE
AND EVANGELIST**

Saturday; December 28th **FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS**

1st Reading: 1 John 1:5—2:2

Psalm 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8

Our soul has been rescued like a bird from the fowler's snare.

Gospel: Matthew 2:13-18



MEDITATION OF THE DAY

The Visitation



*As soon as Mary had conceived the Word in her womb, she arose and went with haste to the hill country, to a city of Judah, to visit her cousin Elizabeth. Can we not sense the cause of this promptness, of the seriousness with which she took this duty? When one is filled with Jesus Christ, one is at the same time filled with charity, with a holy vivacity, and with lofty ideals, whose execution leaves no time for languishing. **Mary, who***

carried grace with Jesus Christ in her womb, was called forth by a divine instinct to take that grace to the house of Zechariah, where John the Baptist had been recently conceived.... Mary, knowing herself to have been served by the Word who had descended into her womb, could not fail to be touched by the desire to humble herself and to abase herself according to his example. Jesus would need to be preceded by Saint John externally; but interiorly, it is Jesus who must precede, because he must sanctify John. It was necessary that John receive from Jesus the first touch of grace.

In all the visits that we make, let us imitate Mary. Let us visit one another in charity, for under even a simple civility great mysteries may be hidden. Grace will grow where it is made known by humility and by the exercise of holy friendship.

Pious souls, cultivate the duties of family life. Be friends, Christian women, as Mary and Elizabeth were. Let your friendship be a work of piety and your conversations full of God; then Jesus will be in your midst and you will feel his presence. Men, you too should imitate these pious women. O God! Sanctify our conversations, remove from them curiosity, dissipation, anxiety, dissimulation, and trickery. Allow cordiality and good examples to reign in them.

For this day is a miracle! Jesus Christ is hidden, and yet he is the one who accomplishes everything. — BISHOP JACQUES-BÉNIGNE BOSSUET

Jacques-Bénigne Bossuet († 1704), known as the “Eagle of Meaux,” was a French bishop, theologian, and renowned orator. / From Meditations for Advent, Christopher O. Blum, tr. © 2012, Christopher O. Blum, Sophia Institute Press, Manchester, NH. www.sophia institute.com.

Excerpt from Magnificat Magazine, Meditation of the Day, Dec. 22, 2024

HOMILY NOTES



Diciembre está tradicionalmente dedicado a la Inmaculada Concepción. La Santísima Virgen María, en el primer momento de su concepción, por singular privilegio de Dios Todopoderoso, y en vista de los méritos de Jesucristo, nuestro Salvador y suyo, fue preservada de toda mancha del pecado original. Esta antigua creencia de la Iglesia fue definida por el Papa Pío IX en 1854 como un artículo de verdad revelada: María necesitaba redención y de hecho fue redimida por la Preciosa Sangre de Jesucristo.

Las dos oraciones (abajo) están dedicadas a María y han sido combinadas en una Novena por Los Esclavos del Inmaculado Corazón de María, fundada por el P. Leonard Feeney SJ en Boston en 1945 y refundada por el hermano Hugh Maclsaac en 1976.

Oración de la Novena de Navidad de San Andrés ¹
Oración para la Fiesta de la Inmaculada Concepción ²

Las Hermanas hacen votos como Esposas de Cristo y viven una vida religiosa tradicional activa de oración y trabajo alimentada por la Liturgia Tradicional Latina y están dedicadas a Jesús a través de María. Viven el espíritu de la Verdadera Devoción a María como se describe en el tratado escrito por San Luis María de Montfort. Consagrandose a Nuestra Señora, le dan todo, incluso, sin excepción, los méritos de todas sus acciones.

ORACIONES DEDICADAS A MARÍA, MADRE DE DIOS

¹ *Salve y bendita sea la hora y el momento en que nació el Hijo de Dios de la purísima Virgen María, a medianoche, en Belén, en medio de un frío penetrante. ¡En esa hora, concédete, oh Dios mío! para escuchar mi oración y conceder mis deseos, por los méritos de nuestro Salvador Jesucristo, y de su Santísima Madre.*

² *Recibe, oh Madre dulcísima, nuestras humildes súplicas, y sobre todo consíguenos que, un día, felices contigo, podamos repetir ante tu trono aquel himno que hoy se canta en la tierra alrededor de tus altares: Tú eres toda hermosa, ¡Oh María! ¡Tú eres la gloria, tú eres la alegría, tú eres el honor de nuestro pueblo! Amén.*

¹ Se cree piadosamente que quien recite la novena navideña de San Andrés 15 veces al día desde la fiesta de San Andrés (30 de noviembre) hasta Nochebuena obtendrá el favor solicitado.

² La oración de la Fiesta de la Inmaculada Concepción se utiliza a menudo durante la Fiesta de la Inmaculada Concepción para celebrar la libertad de María del pecado original.

FUENTE y Fuente de oración: <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/view.cfm?id=765#:~:text=The%20month%20of%20December%20is,all%20stain%20of%20original%20sin.> <https://ascensionpress.com/pages/st-andrews-christmas-novena>

DEVOTION OF THE MONTH



December is traditionally dedicated to the Immaculate Conception. The Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first moment of her conception, by a singular privilege of Almighty God, and in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, our Savior and hers, was preserved from all stain of original sin. This age-old belief of the Church was defined by Pope Pius IX in 1854 as an article of revealed truth: Mary was in need of redemption and she was indeed redeemed by the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ.

The two prayers (below), are dedicated to Mary and have been combined into a Novena by The Slaves of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, founded by Fr. Leonard Feeney SJ in Boston in 1945 and re-founded by Brother Hugh Maclsaac in 1976.

St. Andrew Christmas Novena Prayer ¹
Prayer for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception ²

The Sisters take vows as Brides of Christ and live a traditional active religious life of prayer and work nourished by the Traditional Latin Liturgy and are dedicated to Jesus through Mary. They live the spirit of True Devotion to Mary as described in the treatise written by Saint Louis Marie de Montfort. Consecrating themselves to Our Lady, they give her everything even, without exception, the merits of all their actions.

PRAYERS DEDICATED TO MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

¹ *Hail and blessed be the hour and the moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour, vouchsafe, O my God! to hear my prayer and grant my desires, through the merits of our Savior Jesus Christ, and of His Blessed Mother.*

² *Receive, O most sweet Mother, our humble supplications, and above all obtain for us that, one day, happy with you, we may repeat before your throne that hymn which today is sung on earth around your altars: You are all-beautiful, O Mary! You are the glory, you are the joy, you are the honor of our people! Amen.*

¹ It is piously believed that whoever recites the St. Andrew Christmas novena prayer FIFTEEN times each day from the feast of St. Andrew (November 30th) until Christmas Eve will obtain the favor requested.

² The Feast of the Immaculate Conception Prayer is often used during the Feast of the Immaculate Conception celebrating Mary's freedom from original sin.

Source: <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/view.cfm?id=765#:~:text=The%20month%20of%20December%20is,all%20stain%20of%20original%20sin.> <https://ascensionpress.com/pages/st-andrews-christmas-novena>

Midnight Mass! Tuesday | Dec 24 | 1159p

Midnight Mass has returned to St. Thomas More after a six year absence due to the Camp Fire. Thanks be to God!



Christmas Day Mass of the Nativity

Wednesday | Dec. 25
1030A - English | 1230P Español

Vigil Mass to proclaim the Jubilee Year: Pilgrims of Hope

Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament | Dec. 28 | 5p - 7p
1017 11th St., Sacramento 95814

The Jubilee Year starts on Dec. 24, 2024 with the opening of the Holy Door in Rome. In the Diocese of Sacramento, the faithful will participate in a special Vigil Mass to proclaim the Jubilee Year. Bishop Jaime Soto will preside.

The Mass will take place on the Vigil of the Feast of the Holy Family. The Mass will be bilingual and include a special blessing for families. People should gather in the plaza in front of the Cathedral at 5 p.m. Be part of this historic event!

For more information about the Jubilee Year 2025, visit <https://www.scd.org/Jubilee2025>

Posadas Navideñas

This Week's Schedule



Today!
Sunday
Dec. 22

Potluck
and
Piñatas

2p

Monday
Tuesday
Christmas Eve

Church
Church
Church
(Misa en español)

6p
645p
730p

The Posadas tradition originated in 1586 as a way to teach native people about Christmas by holding special Catholic masses nightly in advance.



Sacrament of Reconciliation Times Expanded!

Tuesdays 5p to 5:45p
Wed., & Thurs. 8a to 825a
Friday 8a to 825A & 430p to 545p



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)



Adoration is now every Friday after Mass,
9A to 6p. Please sign up in the Narthex for
time to be with Jesus. He's waiting for us!

ATTN BUSINESS OWNERS! FREE LISTINGS FOR YOU ON STM WEBSITE!

Our parish website now offers a free business listing for all business owners who are registered parishioners at St. Thomas More Church.

To add your business to the website it's **1-Step easy!**

1. Send Jim Collins an electronic copy of your flyer, business card, or the URL to your business's website to jimcollins_95991@yahoo.com

(Note: if you can't send your info electronically, you can give Jim a paper copy of your information before or after Mass.)

That's it in 1 step! Jim will then add your business to the STM website.

Donations to our church are always appreciated.

To see the current businesses listed, go to <https://stmparadise.org/parishioner-businesses>, or click the QR Code to the left. **Please support the businesses of our registered parishioners!**

