



ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH



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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 830A

Wednesday, Thurs., & Friday 830A

Sunday Readings

1st Reading *Ezekiel 37:12-14*

Psalm *130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8*

With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Perdónanos, Señor, y viviremos.

2nd Reading *Romans 8:8-11*

Gospel *John 11:1-45*

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 22ND

<i>Sunday; March 22</i>	<i>James Brody † Gail Crowley †</i>	<i>1030A</i>
<i>Domingo; 22 de marzo</i>	<i>Emily Torres (birthday) Ignacio Rodriguez (birthday)</i>	<i>1230P español</i>
<i>Tues.; March 24</i>	<i>Theresa Durant (birthday) Marissa Lee DeCristofaro</i>	<i>830A</i>
<i>Wed.; March 25</i>	<i>Sam Kempner † Maria Trinidad Aguirre Camacho †</i>	<i>830A</i>
<i>Thurs.; March 26</i>	<i>Gema Real Jackie Lerma †</i>	<i>830A</i>
<i>Friday; March 27</i>	<i>Peter Roswitha Uwe † Deceased members of the Fitzgerald Family †</i>	<i>830A</i>

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR

*Rod Montgomery
Bernhard Family
Ed Jimenez
Mary Anne Durant
Rick Sillman
Andrea Inzunza
Kimberly Laird
Leo Benedetti
Kim Avoy Helgeson
Gloria Klinger
Bryant Smith*

*Samia Zumout
Greg DeCristofaro
Carrie Sonsteng
Art Sanchez
Santiago Ávila
Joe DiDuca
Carlos Torres
Tony & Francene Packett
Rick Hodson*

*Ron Keyes
Theresa Durant
Sam Kempner
Dolores Costello
Rosemary Peterson
Shirley Richards
Ron Villancourt*

MARCH INTENTIONS OF POPE LEO XIV

For disarmament and peace

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

INTENCIONES DE MARZO DEL PAPA LEÓN XIV

Por el desarme y la paz

Oremos para que las naciones avancen hacia un desarme efectivo, en particular el desarme nuclear, y para que los líderes mundiales elijan el camino del diálogo y la diplomacia en lugar de la violencia.

This Week's Readings**FIFTH WEEK OF LENT****Monday; March 23rd**

1st Reading: Daniel 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30,
33-62 or 13:41C-62

Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6

Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side.

Gospel: John 8:1-11

Tuesday; March 24th

1st Reading: Numbers 21:4-9

Psalm 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21

O Lord, bear my prayer & let my cry come to you.

Gospel: John 8:21-30

Wednesday; March 25th Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord

1st Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10

Psalm 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11

Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

2nd Reading: Hebrews 10:4-10

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

Thursday; March 26th

1st Reading: Genesis 17:3-9

Psalm 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

Gospel: John 8:51-59

Friday; March 27th

1st Reading: Jeremiah 20:10-13

Psalm 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7

In my distress I called upon the Lord, and he heard my voice.

Gospel: John 10:31-42

Saturday; March 28th

1st Reading: Ezekiel 37:21-28

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

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

Gospel: John 11:45-56

Sunday; March 29th**Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion**

Procession with Palms Matthew 21:1-11

1st Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

2nd Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel: Matthew 26:14-27:66

MEDITATION OF THE DAY**Our Suffering and Christ's Compassion**

Happiness and suffering are inseparable. Some fear to make [this] affirmation, because the world would look upon them as fools. How can we say that happiness and suffering are inseparable? Is it not just the other way around?



It is not I who say this, but Jesus in the Beatitudes. Open the Gospel to the Sermon on the Mount. What does he tell us? "Blessed are those who weep; blessed are the poor; blessed are those who suffer." There, then, is the affirmation that true happiness and suffering are inseparable. The wisdom we receive straight from the Divine Master is regarded as foolishness. The wisdom of the world is exactly opposed to the teachings of the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus says, "Blessed are the pure"; the world says, "Blessed are they who indulge in loose living." Jesus says, "Blessed are those who weep"; the world says, "Blessed are those who laugh and amuse themselves." Jesus says, "Blessed are the meek, the merciful"; the world says, "Blessed are those who impose themselves on others and dominate them." Jesus says, "Blessed are the poor"; the world says, "Blessed are the rich." Jesus says, "Blessed are those who suffer"; the world says, "Blessed are those who enjoy themselves."

We must not be afraid to say what Jesus said and to affirm it after him.... The only truly happy people are those who have chosen Jesus and his cross on earth. They are the thieves of happiness, because they are already happy a hundredfold here below, and what shall this be for all eternity! To think of heaven is not egotism; it is to plunge ourselves, with delight, into the infinite justice and love of God.

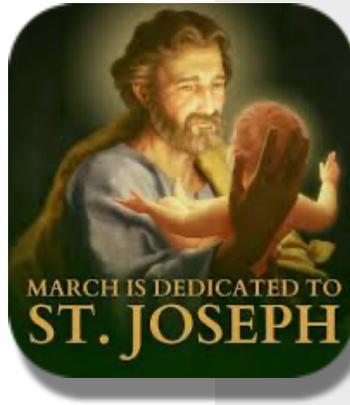
In spite of that, remember that Jesus is filled with compassion for those who suffer. He has borne all our sufferings. He has endured them himself at Gethsemane and on Calvary, but he knows that they are necessary to us, so "he sends them to us as if with an averted gaze," says little Thérèse, as if he did not have the courage to watch us suffer. But he sees at the same time the happiness it will merit for us, the glory it acquires for his Father, for him, for us, and the graces it merits for souls; so in love, in mercy, in tenderness, he hesitates no longer to lay it upon our poor shoulders, while continuing to sustain it himself, making himself our Simon of Cyrene. — FATHER JEAN DU CŒUR DE JÉSUS D'ELBÉE

Father d'Elbée († 1982) was a member of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. / From *I Believe in Love: Retreat Conferences on the Interior Life*, Marilyn Teichert with Madeleine Stebbins, trs. © 1974, Marilyn Teichert and Madeleine Stebbins. Published by Sophia Institute Press, Manchester, NH.

Excerpt from *Magnificat Magazine, Meditation of the Day, March 22, 2026*

HOMILY NOTES

¡Bienvenidos a marzo! Este mes está dedicado a San José. Esta rica tradición nos invita a reflexionar sobre su fe, humildad, obediencia y amor desinteresado. San José es un modelo excepcional para nosotros en nuestro camino espiritual. Marzo es el mes elegido para la dedicación a San José, ya que su festividad principal se celebra el 19 de marzo, una fiesta para honrar y conmemorar su papel como esposo de María y padre adoptivo de Jesucristo. Este mes, la Iglesia anima a los creyentes a reflexionar sobre las virtudes de San José, buscar su intercesión y profundizar en su importancia en la historia de la salvación.



Welcome to March! This month is dedicated to St. Joseph. This rich tradition invites us to reflect on his faith, humility, obedience, and selfless love. St. Joseph is an exceptional model for us in navigating our spiritual journey.

March is the month chosen for dedication to St. Joseph because the principal Feast of Saint Joseph is celebrated on March 19 – a feast to honor & commemorate his role as the husband of Mary & foster father of Jesus Christ. This month the Church encourages believers to reflect on St. Joseph's virtues, seek his intercession, and deepen their understanding of his significance in salvation history.

The Solemnity of the Annunciation will be celebrated Wednesday, March 25, at the St. Thomas More 830A Mass. This Mass commemorates the angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary that she would conceive Jesus. To this Glorious Virgin and her Divine Son were given the virtuous Saint Joseph to lead, guard, and provide for them.

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ORACIÓN A SAN JOSÉ PARA UN FAVOR ESPECIAL

*Oh, bienaventurado San José, padre de tierno corazón, fiel custodio de Jesús, casto esposo de la Madre de Dios! Te rogamos y suplicamos que ofrezcas a Dios Padre a su Divino Hijo, bañado en sangre en la cruz por los pecadores, y que, por el tres veces santo Nombre de Jesús, nos obtengas del Padre Eterno el favor que imploramos.
(Expresa tu intención)*

Apacigua la ira divina, tan justamente inflamada por nuestros crímenes; implora a Jesús misericordia para tus hijos. En medio de los esplendores de la eternidad, no olvides las penas de aquellos que sufren, de aquellos que rezan, de aquellos que lloran. Detén el brazo del Todopoderoso que nos castiga, para que, por tus oraciones y las de tu santísimo esposo, el Corazón de Jesús se mueva a la piedad y al perdón. Amén.

PRAYER TO SAINT JOSEPH FOR A SPECIAL FAVOR

*O Blessed Saint Joseph, tender-hearted father, faithful guardian of Jesus, chaste spouse of the Mother of God, we pray and beseech thee to offer to God the Father His Divine Son, bathed in blood on the cross for sinners, and through the thrice-holy Name of Jesus, obtain for us from the Eternal Father, the favor we implore. (State your intention)
Appease the Divine anger so justly inflamed by our crimes; beg of Jesus mercy for thy children. Amid the splendors of eternity, forget not the sorrows of those who suffer, those who pray, those who weep. Stay the Almighty arm which smites us, that by thy prayers and those of thy most holy spouse, the Heart of Jesus may be moved to pity and to pardon. Amen.*

ALOHA!!! How about 6Days/5Nights in Maui at the Sheraton Maui Resort & Spa? This St. Vincent de Paul annual fundraiser offers you a chance for two to fly to Maui, a \$400 car rental voucher & \$500 American Express gift card. 2ND Prize is a \$500 VISA gift card! Raffle Tickets are just \$10 each. Purchase yours after Mass.



Final Penance Service

Wed., March 25: St. Thomas More, Paradise - 6p

Please join us for the final Stations of the Cross this Friday!

March 27 | 27 de marzo

Stations of the Cross | Horario del via Crucis

- 6P Stations | Horario
- Lenten Soup Supper | Cena de Sopa



Note/Nota: Stations of the Cross, in both English & Spanish, will take place simultaneously with each group alternating between the Church and the Family Life Center (aka: the church hall.) El Vía Crucis, tanto en inglés como en español, se llevará a cabo simultáneamente, alternando cada grupo entre la iglesia y el Centro de Vida Familiar (también conocido como el salón.)

womens one day retreat

Special Guest Speaker Deacon Ray Helgeson

ATTENTION ALL WOMEN OF ST. THOMAS MORE!

Ladies, mark your calendars for a Wonderful One-Day Retreat, given by Deacon Ray Helgeson, April 11, 845a to 3p. Deacon Ray will be speaking about God's original plan for creation, Sin- the world & heaven, God's call & our response, and Repentance - growth in spiritual strength. Confession and Mass will be offered. Please come and spend this time nourishing your body and soul. A continental breakfast and lunch are included. For reservations and questions please call Cheryl Barron at 530-514-8859. Please register to help us ensure there are sufficient materials & food. There is no cost to attend this retreat, it is free to all women of the parish.

Men's Retreat is This Coming Weekend! Let's Go!

Listen, Jesus is calling! Have you signed up for The Men's Retreat yet? Uh-oh. It's next weekend: **Fri.; March 27 to Sun.; March 29.**

The Retreat is getting close but there's still time to register. <https://christthekingretreatcenter.org/> or by mail (the address is on the Info Sheet), or call 916-725-4720.

Registration: \$290-Single | \$260-Double
Ride share available, see Gary | Partial scholarships available just call the Retreat Center
Pick up a flyer in the narthex for details.

Questions? Need a ride? See retreat leader Deacon Gary Zellmer after Mass.



SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

March 25th

St. Thomas More | Wed.; March 25 | 830A

This Mass commemorates the angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary that she would conceive Jesus. To this Glorious Virgin and her Divine Son were given the virtuous Saint Joseph to lead, guard, and provide for them.

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday and the start of Holy Week.

Ladies Bible Study this Thursday, 1p

Family Life Center - small meeting room - 1P

Questions? Call Gail Crowley 530-877-8474

Ladies Bible Study cancelled next Thurs., April 2, in observance of Holy Week.

MEN'S MINISTRY NEW TIME!

Friday; March 27 | **930A** | Church Hall Mtg Rm.

