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 6P
Wed., Thursday, Friday 8

Sunday Readings

1st Reading Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17
Psalm 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6
The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

El Señor es mi pastor, nada me faltará.

2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28
Gospel Matthew 25:31-46

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK OF NOVEMBER 22ND

Sunday; November 22	*For the Holy Souls in Purgatory †*	*1030A*
Domingo; 22 de noviembre	*Por las benditas almas del purgatorio †*	*1230P español*
Tues.; November 24	*For the Holy Souls in Purgatory †*	*6P*
Wed.; November 25	*For the Holy Souls in Purgatory †*	*830A*
Thurs.; November 26	*For the Holy Souls in Purgatory †*	*830A*
Friday; November 27	*For the Holy Souls in Purgatory †*	*830A*



PRAY FOR THE HOLY SOULS IN PURGATORY

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK



LET US PRAY FOR

Rod Montgomery
Bernhard Family
Mary Anne Durant
Andrea Inzunza
Kimberly Laird
Leo Benedetti
The Mortenson Family
Michael Coronado
Joan Memmer
Beverly Brown
Peg McMahon
Samia Zumout
Carrie Sonsteng
Art Sanchez
Santiago Ávila
Carlos Torres
Tony & Francene Packett
Larry Young
Kim DeFretias
Mark Jimenez
Bob Gallagher
Bryant Smith
Ron Keyes
Theresa Durant
Dolores Costello
Rosemary Peterson
David Brown
Gloria Klinger
The Ginn's Family
Rafael Baez
Humberto Bozzo

NOVEMBER INTENTIONS OF POPE LEO XIV

For the proper use of wealth

Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be put at the service, the common good and solidarity of those who have less.

INTENCIONES DE NOVIEMBRE DEL PAPA LEÓN XIV

Por el uso adecuado de la riqueza

Oremos por el uso adecuado de la riqueza: que, sin sucumbir a la tentación del egoísmo, esta se ponga siempre al servicio del bien común y de la solidaridad con quienes tienen menos.

This Week's Readings

THE 34th WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Monday; November 23rd
1st Reading: Revelation 14:1-3, 4b-5
Psalm 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6
Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.
Gospel: Luke 21:1-4

Tuesday; Nov. 24th *Memorial of Saint Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs*
1st Reading: Revelation 14:14-19
Psalm 96:10, 11-12, 13
The Lord comes to judge the earth.
Gospel: *Luke 21:5-11*

Wednesday; November 25th
1st Reading: Revelation 15:1-4
Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 7-8, 9
Great and wonderful are all your works, Lord, mighty God!
Gospel: Luke 21:12-19

Thursday; Nov. 26th *Thanksgiving Day [In the Dioceses of the U.S.]*
1st Reading: Sirach 50:22-24
Psalm 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, 10-11
I will praise your name for ever, Lord.
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

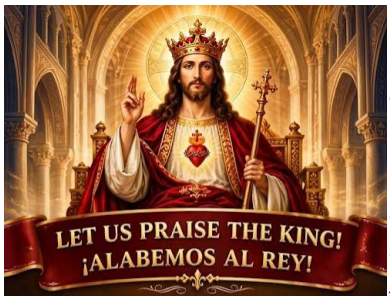
Friday; November 27th
1st Reading: Revelation 20:1-4, 11—21:2
Psalm 84:3, 4, 5-6a, 8a
Here God lives among his people.
Gospel: Luke 21:29-33

Saturday; Nov. 28th
1st Reading: Revelation 22:1-7
Psalm 95:1-2, 3-5, 6-7ab
Marana tha! Come, Lord Jesus!
Gospel: Luke 21:34-36

Sunday; November 29th
First Sunday of Advent
1st Reading: Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7
Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19
Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

MEDITATION OF THE DAY
The King's Desire

Jesus needs nothing. *He not only possesses God, but he is God. He is King of heaven and earth. At his name every knee bows in heaven, on earth, and under the earth. All creation intones unceasingly that canticle of the Apocalypse: Blessing and honor and glory and power, through endless ages, to Him who sits on the throne & to the Lamb (Rv 5:13).*



But if Jesus possesses everything in heaven, much is lacking to him upon earth because the desires of his heart are not satisfied. *What is it that he desires? To complete his mystical body, to reach the fullness of his stature (Eph 4:13). He desires that souls be united with him, live his life, and adapt themselves to his sentiments so that he may present them to his heavenly Father as the trophy of his victory for the glory of the Father and the sanctification of souls….*

Never in the heart of any warrior has there been the unbounded aspiration that consumes the Heart of Jesus–*his burning desire to save and sanctify all men. What consolation for him if each one of us would say: "Lord, I have caught a glimpse of your divine enterprise, and here I am to help you. Since souls may be purified and saved by suffering, I wish to be a victim with you, the Supreme Victim. Henceforth your destiny will be my destiny.*

I wish that the same lance transfix your heart and mine, that the same thorns pierce both hearts, and that one and the same cross surmount them. *Here I am. In all my smallness unite myself to you in your colossal enterprise of saving the world."*— Servant of God Luis María Martínez

Archbishop Martínez († 1956) was the first official Primate of Mexico. / From Only Jesus, Sister Mary St. Daniel, b.v.m., tr. © 2020, Cluny, P.O. Box 1664, Providence, RI. www.clunymedia.com
Excerpt from Magnificat Magazine, Meditation of the Day, November 22 2026

HOMILY NOTES

Noviembre está dedicado a las almas del purgatorio. *La transición de los tonos vibrantes del otoño a la llegada del invierno posee un significado sagrado en la tradición católica. A medida que caen las hojas y los días se acortan, se nos recuerda que toda vida terrenal llega a su fin; la atención se desplaza entonces hacia la profunda y solemne devoción por las Benditas Almas del Purgatorio, quienes no pueden orar por sí mismas y, por tanto, ¡dependen de cada uno de nosotros!*

El Catecismo enseña: «Todos los que mueren en la gracia y en la amistad de Dios, pero imperfectamente purificados, aunque están seguros de su eterna salvación, sufren después de su muerte una purificación, a fin de obtener la santidad necesaria para entrar en la alegría del cielo».(CCC 1030)

Las almas que atraviesan esta purificación conforman la Iglesia Padeciente y son parte de la «comunión de los santos». Habiendo concluido su vida en la tierra y su oportunidad de reparar sus pecados, ya no pueden obtener mérito espiritual alguno. Ahora dependen totalmente de las oraciones y la generosidad de la Iglesia Militante: nosotros, que aún permanecemos en la tierra librando la batalla contra el mundo, la carne y el demonio. Por esta razón, a menudo nos referimos a ellas como las «benditas almas» (o «pobres almas»). En el Purgatorio, no hay nada que puedan hacer para aliviar su propio sufrimiento ni el de las otras almas



November is devoted to the Holy Souls in Purgatory. *The transition from the vibrant hues of autumn to the onset of winter holds a sacred significance in the Catholic tradition. As the leaves fall and the days grow shorter, we are reminded that all earthly life comes to an end, the focus shifts to the profound & solemn devotion to the Holy Souls of Purgatory who cannot pray for themselves and therefore rely on each of us!*

The Catechism teaches: "All who die in God's grace and friendship but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death, they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven."(CCC 1030)

The souls undergoing this purification make up the Church Suffering and are a part of the "communion of saints." Having completed their life on earth and their opportunity to make reparation for their sins, they are no longer able to gain any spiritual merit. They are now completely dependent upon the prayers and generosity of The Church Militant – those of us still on earth fighting the battle against the world, the flesh, and the devil. This is why we often refer to them as the poor souls. In Purgatory, there is nothing they can do to alleviate their own suffering or the suffering of other souls there with them.

ADORATION

Friday, Nov. 27 | Follows 830A Mass

MEN'S MINISTRY

Friday; Nov. 27 | 930A | Church Hall Mtg Rm.

ATTENTION WOMEN OF ST. THOMAS MORE

SAVE THESE DATES: February 5,6 & 7 for the STM Women's Parish Retreat at Christ the King Retreat Center.

Questions? Call Cathy Keesling: 530-828-0278 or Cheryl Barron: 530-514-8859 for more info.

Be sure to watch the STM Bulletin for details!



The Church year begins on the First Sunday of Advent.

This year, that day falls on November 29 — more than a month before the world celebrates New Years's Day.

Please Note These Important Dates

Thursday, Nov. 26 Thanksgiving Day Mass 10A

Sunday, Nov. 29 - 1st Sunday of Advent
Masses: 1030A English | 1230P Spanish

Tuesday, Dec. 8 - Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Masses: 830A English | 6P Bilingual
Note: Potluck follows the 6P Bilingual Mass

Women's Bible Study

Meets Thursday at 130P in the Parish Hall Mtg Rm

The weekly women's Bible study is studying the gospel of Mathew. Questions? Call Gail Crowley (530) 570- 8474. All ladies are welcome!

The Beatitudes, the Fruits, and the Connection to the Souls in Purgatory

Last Sunday Deacon Tom gave a wonderful homily on the Beatitudes and its fruits. Wonder about the impact of the Beatitudes on the poor souls in Purgatory? Is there a connection? Definitely! As you may recall, Deacon Tom told us that in Catholic theology, the Beatitudes describe the state of true blessedness and union with God thru fruits & virtues perfected. The souls in purgatory are certain to reach this state as they are purified for heaven. And we know that the Holy Souls in purgatory are already "blessed" because God's purifying love embraces them & prepares them to share fully in the life of Christ.

The Beatitudes	Fruits	Virtue(s) Perfected	Connection to Souls in Purgatory
Poor in Spirit	*Modesty, Self-control, Chastity*	*Temperance, Hope, Religion, Humility*	*To enter heaven, souls in purgatory rely entirely on God's grace & mercy rather than their own merits. Heaven, their final destiny is assured.*
Meekness & Mercy	*Goodness, Kindness, Gentleness*	*Justice, Religion, Piety*	*In total surrender to God's will, these souls accept purification without rebellion; moving to an eternal inheritance in heaven.*
Hunger, Thirst for Justice -Righteousness	*Patience, Endurance, Forbearance*	*Fortitude*	*These souls intensely desire complete holiness & union with God, a longing fully satisfied upon entering heaven.*
Mercy	*Goodness, Kindness, Gentleness*	*Prudence*	*We, the Church Militant offer prayers, sacrifices & Masses on their behalf. This spiritual work of mercy unites us to these souls as our prayers & good works help their purification.*
Mourning	*Fidelity, Spiritual Joy*	*Knowledge*	*Souls in purgatory experience sorrow over past imperfections & separation from the full vision of God, but are promised complete comfort & joy when purification is complete.*
Peacemaker	*Charity, Joy, Peace*	*Charity*	*This Beatitude reflects the enduring communion of saints & cost of faithful discipleship, which finds its fulfillment in the eternal peace of heaven.*

Source: *Deacon Tom O'Connell Homily 20Nov26; https://catholicanswers.com/; https://paulinestore.com/blog/the-blessing-that-really-counts/*