



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- 12p 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 830A

Sunday Readings

1st Reading Isaiah 22:19-23**Psalm** 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of
your hands.

Señor, tu amor perdura eternamente.

2nd Reading Romans 11:33-36**Gospel** Matthew 16:13-20

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK OF AUGUST 23RD

Sunday; August 23

Carol Zellmer †
Cecilia Torey

1030A

Domingo; 23 de agosto

Melitón Nazareno & Sara Castro (salúd)

1230P español

Tues.; August 25

Onofre Real

6P

Wed.; August 26

Onofre Real

830A

Thurs.; August 27

Earl J. Whatcott †
Onofre Real

830A

Friday; August 28

Onofre Real

830A

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR

Rod Montgomery
Bernbard Family
Mary Anne Durant
Rick Sillman
Andrea Inzunza
Kimberly Laird
Leo Benedetti
The Mortenson Family
Michael Coronado
Joan Memmer
Beverly Brown

Samia Zumout
Greg DeCristofaro
Carrie Sonsteng
Art Sanchez
Santiago Ávila
Carlos Torres
Tony & Francene Packett
Rick Hodson
Larry Young

Bryant Smith
Ron Keyes
Theresa Durant
Raul & Helvia
Saavedra
Dolores Costello
Rosemary Peterson
Susie Boyd
David Brown
Gloria Klinger

AUGUST INTENTIONS OF POPE LEO XIV

For evangelization in the city

Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness
we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to
build community.

INTENCIONES DE AGOSTO DEL PAPA LEÓN XIV

Por la evangelización en la ciudad

Oremos para que, en las grandes ciudades a menudo marcadas por el
anonimato y la soledad, encontremos nuevas formas de anunciar el
Evangelio, descubriendo caminos creativos para construir comunidad.

This Week's Readings
THE 21ST WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Monday; Aug. 24th *Feast of Saint Bartholomew, Apostle*

1st Reading: Revelation 21:9b-14

Psalm 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18

Your friends make known, O Lord, the glorious splendor of your Kingdom.

Gospel: John 1:45-51

Tuesday; August 25th

1st Reading: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-3a, 14-17

Psalm 96:10, 11-12, 13

The Lord comes to judge the earth.

Gospel: Matthew 23:23-26

Wednesday; August 26th

1st Reading: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-10, 16-18

Psalm 128:1-2, 4-5

Blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 23:27-32

Thurs.; Aug. 27th *Memorial of Saint Monica*

1st Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Psalm 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7

I will praise your name for ever, Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 24:42-51

Friday; Aug. 28th *Memorial of Saint Augustine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church*

1st Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:17-25

Psalm 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11

The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

Sat. Aug. 29th *Memorial of the Passion of Saint John the Baptist*

1st Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Psalm 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21

Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

Gospel: Mark 6:17-29

Sunday; August 30th

Twenty-second Sunday In Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-9

Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

2nd Reading: Romans 12:1-2

Gospel: Matthew 16:21-27

MEDITATION OF THE DAY
I Knew It Was Christ



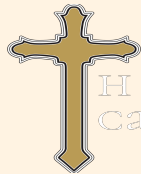
[Our sisters] had to go to the home for the dying. And before they went, I said to them... "You saw during Holy Mass with what tenderness, with what love, Father was touching the Body of Christ. Make sure it is the same body in the poor that you will be touching. Give that same love, that same tenderness." They went.

After three hours they returned, and one of them came up to my room and said, "Mother, I've been touching the body of Christ for three hours."

Her face was shining with joy. I said, "What did you do, sister?" "Well, just as we arrived, they brought a man covered with maggots. He had been picked up from a drain. And for three hours, I have been touching the body of Christ. I knew it was he."... This young sister... understood that Jesus cannot deceive. He had said so: I was sick and you took care of me. — SAINT TERESA OF CALCUTTA

Saint Teresa of Calcutta († 1997) founded the Missionaries of Charity and won the Nobel Peace Prize. / From The Writings of Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Copyright © by the Mother Teresa Center, exclusive licensee throughout the world of the Missionaries of Charity for the works of Mother Teresa.

Excerpt from Magnificat Magazine, Meditation of the Day, August 23, 2026



HOMILY NOTES



Got Your Ticket for Ministry Days 2026?

All Catholic ministry leaders & volunteers in the Diocese of Sacramento are invited to Ministry Days 2026, Saturday, Sept. 26. This is the largest gathering of its kind & this year the day focuses on mental health, and challenges us all to encounter the Sacred Heart of Jesus as the ultimate source of mercy and healing. Enjoy a great day of prayer, networking, and fellowship as we discuss new ways to serve families navigating the complexities of mental health. Tickets on sale now at www.ministrydays.com.

Agosto es el mes dedicado al Inmaculado

Corazón de María. Se invita a los fieles a reflexionar sobre el corazón puro, el amor inquebrantable y la virtud excelsa de María. La asociación del mes de agosto con el Inmaculado Corazón es una costumbre relativamente reciente, surgida en la época de la Segunda Guerra Mundial. El Papa de aquel entonces, el Venerable Pío XII, profesaba una profunda devoción a Nuestra Señora de Fátima, quien en 1917 dijo a los pastorcitos: «[Jesús] quiere establecer en el mundo la devoción a mi Inmaculado Corazón». Si bien los católicos han venerado el corazón de Nuestra Señora a lo largo de los siglos, el Papa Pío deseaba desde hacía tiempo universalizar esta devoción mediante una fiesta litúrgica específica que fomentara su práctica en toda la Iglesia.



August is the month dedicated to the Immaculate

Heart of Mary. The faithful are invited to reflect on Mary's pure heart, steadfast love, and towering virtue. The association of August with the Immaculate Heart is a fairly recent development stemming from the World War II era. The pope at the time, Venerable Pope Pius XII, held a deep devotion to Our Lady of Fatima who in 1917 told the shepherd children "[Jesus] wants to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart." Although Catholics throughout the ages venerated Our Lady's heart, Pope Pius had long desired to make this devotion more universal via a set feast day to promote it throughout the Church.

ORACIÓN AL INMACULADO CORAZÓN DE MARÍA

Oh Inmaculado Corazón de María, belleza celestial y esplendor del Padre, eres el tesoro celestial máspreciado.

Nueva Eva, inmaculada en alma, espíritu y cuerpo, creada de la semilla divina por el Espíritu de Dios, eres la Madre espiritual de la humanidad.

Virgen pura, llena de gracia ayer y hoy, todo tu ser fue elevado al cielo en plena gloria, para ser exaltado por encima de todas las huestes del Reino de Dios.

¡Oh Madre Celestial, Reina del Cielo y de la Tierra, reconozco la gloria de tu título más excelso: el Inmaculado Corazón de María!

Madre amorosa, dispensadora de infinitas bendiciones, Tú que continuamente intercedes por nosotros, por favor presenta mi necesidad ante tu amoroso Hijo, Jesús.

(Con tus propias palabras, formula aquí tu petición especial. Dirígete al Inmaculado Corazón de María como lo harías con otra persona, rogándole a tu Madre Celestial que interceda ante Jesús por ti para que te sea concedida esta petición especial).

Oh, Inmaculado Corazón de María, sé que ahora presentas mi necesidad ante Jesús, pues nunca has rechazado a quienes se encuentran en grave necesidad.

Queridísima Madre, aguardo tu respuesta favorable, someténdome a la voluntad divina del Señor, pues toda gloria es suya por los siglos de los siglos.

PRAYER TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

O Immaculate Heart of Mary, Heavenly beauty and splendor of the Father, You are the most valued Heavenly treasure.

New Eve, immaculate in soul, spirit, and body, Created of the godly seed by the Spirit of God, You are the spiritual Mother of mankind.

Pure Virgin, full of grace then and now, Your whole being was raised Heavenly in full glory, to be elevated above all the hosts within the Kingdom of God.

O Heavenly Mother, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I recognize the glory of your highest title, The Immaculate Heart of Mary! Loving Mother, dispenser of endless blessings, You who continuously intercede on our behalf, please present my need before your loving Son, Jesus.

(In your own words, make your special request here. Speak to the Immaculate Heart of Mary as you would speak to another person, begging your Heavenly Mother to plead with Jesus on your behalf, that you be granted this special request.)

O Immaculate Heart of Mary, I know that you are now presenting my need before Jesus, for you have never turned away those in dire need.

Mother dearest, I await your favorable answer, submitting myself to the Divine will of the Lord, for all glories are His forever and ever.

Source: <https://covenantcatholic.org/devotion-of-the-month/august-dedicated-to-the-immaculate-heart-of-mary/>; national catholic register; Aug 9, 2026.; <https://covenantcatholic.org/devotion-of-the-month/august-dedicated-to-the-immaculate-heart-of-mary/>

**ADORATION**

Friday, Aug. 28 | Follows 8:30A Mass
Adoration extended to 7:30p thru September

**MEN'S MINISTRY**

Friday, Aug. 28 | **930A** | Church Hall Mtg Rm.

**LUMEN CHRISTI**

STM YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

CALLED INTO RELATIONSHIP WITH
JESUS CHRIST. ROOTED IN THE LIFE
AND TEACHINGS OF HIS CHURCH.
TOGETHER WE SHARE HIS LOVE WITH
OTHERS SO THAT THE LIGHT OF CHRIST
MAY ILLUMINATE THE WORLD.

NEXT MEETING

Sept. 3 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT:

Heidi & Justin | (530) 864-0809

SAVE THE DATE!

**Saturday;
Sept. 26TH**

A Taste of Heaven on Earth
Chocolate & Wine Festival
TICKETS ON SALE NOW
AFTER MASS!

\$15 per person
Kids 10yrs and under are free

Women of STM Meeting

Saturday; Sept. 11TH
10A

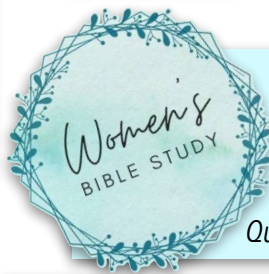
St. Vincent de Paul Rm
(in the church)

ALL HANDS ON DECK!

The annual Chocolate & Wine Fest is almost here and we need your help with planning and support.

All women of the parish are automatic members of this group so please join us on Sept. 11 at 10A and bring your goods ideas.

Questions? See Susie Boyd, Cathy Keesling or Cheryl Barron.

**at St. Thomas More Resumes Thursday, Sept. 10 at 130P**

The ladies Bible study will meet in the Family Life Center small meeting rm. Study will continue with Matthew chapter 14. There are a few things planned to vary & add to the study. All ladies are welcome!

Questions? Call Gail Crowley at 530.877.8474.

Dear STM Family,

Our love and thanks to all of you who have prayed especially over the last year for our sweet daughter Kim, who has been fighting cancer for the last 12 years. She was taken home to the Father, whom she loved so much,, on July 20, 2026. Her funeral Mass will be held on September 5, 2026 (her birthday) at Christ Child Catholic Church in the Santa Cruz mountains.

Words can't express how much we appreciate the love and support we've received from all of you through the spiritual strength in Masses offered, cards, hugs, and prayers. We truly appreciate your love and kindness, and we thank God so much for our family at St. Thomas More.

In Christ's Love,

Deacon Ray and Donna Helgeson

Recently, a presentation of \$1,000.00 from STM was made to the First Baptist Church of Paradise Food Pantry. The generosity of STM parishioners made this gift possible. Some make designated gifts thru the offering. Others use the QR code on our website to donate. In addition, eight to 10 STM parishioners volunteer their time each week to serve those in need here on the Ridge. This ministry helps people in need which can include some of our friends and neighbors. A big thanks to all who serve and all who give!

Kathy DeCristofaro, pantry volunteer



Center: Greg Kidder
flanked by two FBC
Food Pantry volunteers.

Get your tickets Now - ON FiRE 2026 | Saturday, Sept. 12 | 9A - 7P

Don't miss the 17th annual ON FiRE at Six Flags Discovery Kingdom in Vallejo, CA. This year we are excited to welcome the Joe Melendrez, Francis Cabildo, and Fr. Edwin Leonard to the main stage to inspire and challenge the youth from all over Northern California. For more information and ways you and your teen can get involved visit www.onfirenorcal.com

Consigue tus entradas ahora - ON FiRE 2026 | Sábado, 12 de Septiembre de 9A a 7P

No te pierdas la 17ª edición anual de ON FiRE en Six Flags Discovery Kingdom en Vallejo, CA. Este año nos complace dar la bienvenida a Joe Melendrez, Francis Cabildo y al Padre Edwin Leonard en el escenario principal para inspirar y desafiar a los jóvenes de todo el Norte de California. Encuentra más información y descubre cómo tú y tu hijo adolescente pueden participar en www.onfirenorcal.com