

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*

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

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday 830A

Sunday Readings

1st Reading 1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

Psalm Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13

The Lord is kind and merciful.

El Señor es compasivo y misericordioso.

2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 15:45-49

Gospel Luke 6:27-38

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 23RD

Sunday; Feb.23	Susan June Lundy †	1030A
Domingo; 23 feb.	Abel Holguin Chavez † Jorge Christian Avila Martinez †	1230P español
Tuesday; Feb. 25	<i>Mass Cancelled</i>	6P
Wed.; Feb. 26	<i>Mass Cancelled</i>	830A
Thurs.; Feb. 27	For the Intentions of Gema Real	830A
Friday; Feb. 28	Maria Balladares †	830A

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR

*Eduardo Dominguez
Raul Saavedra
Carolyn Boyd
Jose Raul Rivera
Mary Anne Durant*

*Barbara Maldonado
Samia Zumout
Chris Rehmann
Helvia Saavedra*

*Elaine Little
Ron Keyes
Sonia Ruiz
Theresa Durant*



Lent begins Wed., March 5. Please bring last year's palm branches & place in basket in the Narthex.

FEBRUARY INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS

For vocations to the priesthood and religious life

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

INTENCIONES DE FEBRERO DEL PAPA FRANCISCO

Para vocaciones al sacerdocio y a la vida religiosa

Oremos para que la comunidad eclesial acoja los anhelos y las dudas de aquellos jóvenes que sienten el llamado a servir la misión de Cristo en el sacerdocio y la vida religiosa.

This Week's Readings**SEVENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME****Monday; February 24th**

1st Reading: Sirach 1:1-10

Psalm 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5

The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.

Gospel: Mark 9:14-29

Tuesday; February 25th

1st Reading: Sirach 2:1-11

Psalm 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40

Commit your life to the Lord, and he will help you.

Gospel: Mark 9:30-37

Wednesday; February 26th

1st Reading: Sirach 4:11-19

Psalm 119:165, 168, 171, 172, 174, 175

O Lord, great peace have they who love your law.

Gospel: Mark 9:38-40

Thursday; February 27th

1st Reading: Sirach 5:1-8

Psalm 1:1-4, 6

Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.

Gospel: Mark 9:41-50

Friday; February 28th

1st Reading: Sirach 6:5-17

Psalm 119:12, 16, 18, 27, 34, 35

Guide me Lord in the way of your commands

Gospel: Mark 10:1-12

Saturday; March 1st

1st Reading: Sirach 17:1-15

Psalm 103:13-14, 15-16, 17-18

The Lord's kindness is everlasting to those who fear him.

Gospel: Mark 10:13-16

MEDITATION OF THE DAY**How We Can Live the Golden Rule**

If we wish to practice the virtues of humility & meekness in the diverse circumstances of life, we must contemplate them often in our two great models: our Lord and the Blessed Virgin. We ought to have an ardent devotion for the Blessed Virgin, the humble and meek Virgin Mary. The 19th century is said to be her century because of her most glorious apparitions and the definition of her Immaculate Conception. The 20th century, which opened with the consecration of the human race to the Sacred Heart, seems to be the century of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. We should earnestly unite these two devotions as they will teach us the perfection of charity with humility and meekness....

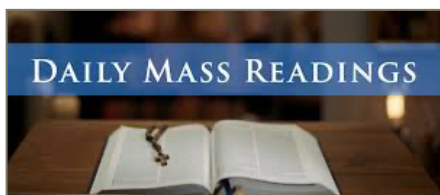
Humility signifies the abasement of the creature before God & before what is divine in others. Yet no one better understood or more desired this dependence and submission of his human nature than our Lord. It is precisely he, the man greatest in mind & heart, who wishes to be the standard, the exemplar of humility: Learn from me, for I am meek & humble of heart. To make up for our pride and our rebellious wills, our Lord abased himself before his Father, accepting every kind of humiliation from his judges, from Pilate, and from Herod. He voluntarily took the role of the representative of sinners, yet he was Sanctity itself... This humility that was so profound in our Lord was at the same time a humility of the heart, simple as that of a child.

When his disciples asked him: Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? Jesus responded by calling a child and putting him in their midst (cf. Mt 18:3). The meekness of our Lord is wholly supernatural. It derives from his zeal for the salvation of souls.... To St. Peter, Jesus replies that it is necessary to pardon not only seven times, but 70 times seven—that is, always. Jesus wished to be called the Lamb who takes away the sins of the world by his sacrifice because the lamb is a symbol of meekness.... In his baptism, the Holy Spirit hovered above his head under the form of a dove, another symbol of meekness.

These two virtues, the germ & flower, of all the others, are also found in their highest degree in Mary. She has been elevated above the angels because she is the model of humility. Like her divine Son, she is an exemplar of meekness, as we sing every day in the Salve Regina. —FATHER REGINALD GARRIGOU-LAGRANGE, O.P.

Father Garrigou-Lagrange († 1964) was a prolific Dominican theologian and spiritual writer. He was the theology doctoral advisor of the future Saint John Paul II. / From *Knowing the Love of God: Lessons from a Spiritual Master*. Raymond Smith, O.P., and Rod Gorton, trs. ©. 2015, Lighthouse Catholic Media, DeKalb, IL. All rights reserved.

Excerpt from *Magnificat Magazine, Meditation of the Day, February 23, 2025*

HOMILY NOTES

¡Bienvenidos a febrero! Este mes está dedicado a la Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María y José, modelo de virtud para todos los hogares cristianos. Esta devoción comenzó en el siglo XVII casi

simultáneamente en Canadá y Francia: la Asociación de la Sagrada Familia, fundada en Montreal en 1663; Las Hijas de la Sagrada Familia en París en 1674. En 1893 el Papa León XIII expresó su aprobación de una fiesta y compuso parte del Oficio.



Welcome to February! This month is dedicated to the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph – the model of virtue for all Christian households. This devotion began in the 17th

century almost simultaneously in Canada & France: the Association of the Holy Family, founded in Montreal in 1663; The

Daughters of the Holy Family in Paris in 1674. In 1893 Pope Leo XIII expressed his approval of a feast and composed part of the Office.

3 LECCIONES QUE LA SAGRADA FAMILIA NOS PUEDE ENSEÑAR SOBRE DECIR SÍ A DIOS

1. La Sagrada Familia participó activamente en su respuesta a la invitación de Dios.

En el Evangelio de Lucas, María responde con una respuesta verbal: "Hágase en mí según tu palabra" (1:38) y luego vive su respuesta a través de sus acciones de llevar y dar a luz a su hijo. En el Evangelio de Mateo, no escuchamos la respuesta de José, pero leemos la línea de las Escrituras que muestra su respuesta a través de la acción: "Hizo lo que el ángel del Señor le había ordenado". (1:24) El sí de Jesús lo vemos suceder a lo largo de las Escrituras a medida que crecía en su ministerio. La Sagrada Familia participó activamente en la invitación de Dios a realizar el Reino de Dios a través de sus palabras y acciones.

2. El sí de la Sagrada Familia a Dios no fue sólo una vez, sino un sí continuo.

Los padres saben que criar a un hijo requiere un compromiso continuo con la invitación de Dios de ser cocreador en la crianza y la paternidad. María y José no solo dijeron que sí una vez, sino que continuaron respondiendo a la invitación de Dios de criar y nutrir a Jesús. Su respuesta a la invitación de Dios se hizo más profunda. La respuesta de Jesús a la invitación de Dios ocurrió una y otra vez cuando entró de lleno en su ministerio público y más tarde en su pasión, muerte y resurrección. ¿En qué áreas nos invita Dios a profundizar nuestro sí?

3. La Sagrada Familia arraigó su vida en Dios.

María, José y Jesús pudieron decir sí a Dios porque tenían una relación con Dios. Si bien solo podemos vislumbrar brevemente la relación de María y José con Dios, [hay indicios] de que era fuerte y se nutría continuamente. ¿De qué otra manera dijeron sí a dar a luz y resucitar al Mesías? Los Evangelios nos ofrecen muchos ejemplos de Jesús recurriendo a Dios Padre en oración para ayudarlo a continuar diciendo sí a su misión. ¿Necesitamos nutrir nuestra propia relación con Dios para poder decir sí a una invitación?

Hagamos una pausa para permitir que la historia de la creación de la Sagrada Familia profundice en nosotros y nos ayude a decir sí a Dios.

FUENTE y Fuente de oración: <https://www.ignatianspirituality.com/three-things-the-holy-family-can-teach-us-about-saying-yes-to-god/> ; https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/overviews/months/02_1.cfm https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/overviews/months/02_1.cfm

3 LESSONS THE HOLY FAMILY CAN TEACH US ON SAYING YES TO GOD

1. The Holy Family actively participated in their response to God's invitation.

In Luke's Gospel, Mary responds with both a verbal response, "Let it be to me according to your word," (1:38) and then she lives out her response through her actions of carrying and birthing her son. In Matthew's Gospel, we do not get to hear Joseph's response, but we read the line of Scripture that shows his response through action, "He did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him." (1:24) Jesus' yes we see happening throughout Scripture as he grew into his ministry. The Holy Family actively participated in God's invitation to bring about God's kingdom through their words and actions.

2. The Holy Family's yes to God wasn't just 1 time, but an ongoing yes.

Parents know that raising a child requires an ongoing commitment to God's invitation to be a co-creator in nurturing & parenting. Mary and Joseph didn't just say yes once, but continued their response to God's invitation to raise & nurture Jesus. Their response to God's invitation deepened. Jesus' response to God's invitation occurred again & again as he fully entered into his public ministry and later his passion, death, and resurrection. In what areas is God inviting us to deepen our own yes?

3. The Holy Family rooted their lives in God.

Mary, Joseph, and Jesus were able to say yes to God because they had a relationship with God. While we only get a short glimpse into Mary's and Joseph's relationship with God, [indications are] that it was strong and continuously nurtured. How else did they say yes to both birthing and raising the Messiah? The Gospels offer us many examples of Jesus turning to God the Father in prayer to help him continue to say yes to his mission. Do we need to nurture our own relationship with God in order to say yes to an invitation?

Let us pause to allow the story of the Holy Family's creation deepen within us and help us say yes to God.

Sources: <https://www.ignatianspirituality.com/three-things-the-holy-family-can-teach-us-about-saying-yes-to-god/> ; https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/overviews/months/02_1.cfm

Source & Prayer: https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/overviews/months/02_1.cfm

Schedule Changes

- Tuesday, Feb. 25: Confessions, Mass, Potluck **CANCELLED.**
- Wednesday, Feb. 26: Mass **CANCELLED.**

Secular Franciscans

GAMES DAY! Sat., March 8

Tickets on sale NOW!

FUN

PRIZES

Silent AUCTION

Food

Prayer Blanket/ Prayer Shawl Ministry

What is a Prayer Blanket or Prayer Shawl? These are small lap blankets that are sewn, knitted, or crocheted by group members and prayed over by the maker during construction. Once completed, they are then blessed by the priest or a deacon before being given away.

These prayer blankets/shawls are meant to bring comfort, a sense of peace, and love to the recipient, and to let them know we are praying for them.

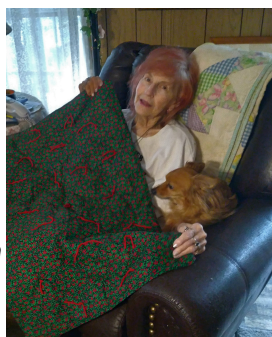
Who is eligible to receive a blanket or shawl? Adults or children with physical or emotional illness, living with a chronic condition or in treatment for a life-threatening illness, those experiencing a crisis such as loss of a loved one, loss of job, or relationship crisis.

Where does this Ministry Meet?

Beginning Friday, March 7th, we will meet in the small side hall; on the 1st & 3rd Fridays each month, 9:30a to 3p. You are welcome to join us!

Donations of sewing materials, batting or notions is deeply appreciated.

Questions? Contact Donna Helgeson 530.282.2132 or email dhelg66@gmail.com



Susie Aldrid received a quilt from the Shawl Ministry as a sign of love and connection to our Church family.



Ladies! Join us Thurs., March 13 for the C.O.N.T.R.O.L. Program
NOTE NEW START DATE MARCH 13!

This is a seven-week structured course designed specifically for Catholic women to help improve life management skills by addressing the unique challenges women often face.

Through the use of prayer, scripture, and virtues, this program is designed to look at seven aspects of daily life including time management, financial responsibilities, household organization under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Your six-week Lenten journey begins Thursday, March 13 at 930A to 11A, and continues March 20, 27 & April 3, 10, 17, & 24. We'll meet in the small side room of the Hall. Snacks and coffee will be provided. Cost is \$20.00 for supplies.

Questions and/or registration please contact Donna Helgeson at (530) 282-2132 or by email at dhelg66@gmail.com.



The Secular Franciscans will host their annual G.A.M.E.S. D.A.Y.

Saturday, March 8, 11A to 3P. This family fun event is a key fundraiser for the Franciscans because proceeds raised go to St. Vincent de Paul and this, in turn, enables SVdP to continue their critical work helping people here on the Ridge. Please support the Secular Franciscans by buying your Games Day ticket after Mass today.

This family fun event features not only lots of games but food, prizes, and a silent auction. It will be held in the Hall. Tickets are on sale now.

As for me, I have my ticket! I'll be at the Scrabble table. Are you game? See you there!



MEN! TIME TO SEEK, RENEW, REFRESH, & REINFORCE TRUST

Men! There's still time to sign up for the Retreat at Christ the King Retreat Center! Fri., Feb. 28 to Sunday March 2. St. Paul reminds us to

trust in the God of Hope. A retreat is a great way to help you reinforce that trust. You won't want to miss this year's topic "Creating the Hope We Seek: The Sacredness of Everyday Life". You'll leave with faith renewed and a better perspective on job, family and life. A great spiritual bargain! Pick up an info sheet in the narthex. Register online at <https://christthekingretreatcenter.org/> or by mail.

Questions? See retreat leader Deacon Gary Zellmer. after Mass.

NEW CLAIRVAUX WINE FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT STM NOW THRU APRIL 18

Purchase wine from the New Clairvaux Winery during their Grace of Giving campaign thru April 18 and New Clairvaux will contribute 20% of the purchase to STM! How? Simply choose option **A** or **B** below:

- A. Go to <https://newclairvauxvineyard.square.site> to purchase the wine of your choice. (Or use this QR code)
- **NOTE:** If you will pick up your wine at New Clairvaux enter the code **FREESHIP** to avoid shipping costs.
- B. Or visit the New Clairvaux Vineyard daily 11A to 5P for a wine tasting, choose your wine & purchase using the website above or the QR code, then go to the wine room to pick up your wine.



All wines must be purchased on the website above to benefit STM. This promotion is good for wine purchases thru April 18, 2025.

Address for New Clairvaux Winery & Tasting Room, 26240 7th St., Vina, CA. 96092 phone: 530.839.2200 **Questions?** See Jim Collins after Mass



Happy anniversary St. Thomas More! Since Feb. 29, 1948 77 years & growing! Thanks be to God! (See STM website for history)