

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

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 Bilingual

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday 830A

Sunday Readings

1st Reading Joshua 5:9a, 10-12

Psalms 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Haz la prueba y verás qué bueno es el Señor.

2nd Reading 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Gospel Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 30TH

Sunday; March 30	Ramon and Estela Reyes †	1030A
Domingo 30 marzo	Maria Cristina Perales Castañeda † Abel Holguin Chavez †	1230P español
Tuesday; April 1	Francisco Rivera (Cumpleaños) Marco Antonio Chavez (Cumpleaños)	6P
Wed.; April 2	For the Intentions of Ariana Ospina	830A
Thurs.; April 3	Carol Zellmer †	830A
Friday; April 4	Malaquias Balladares †	830A

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR

Connie Rehmann
Kimberly Steffen-Parkney
Raul Saavedra
Jose Raul Rivera
Mary Anne Durant

Samia Zumout
Greg DeCristofaro
Chris Rehmann
Helvia Saavedra
Lourdes Collazo

Tim Steffen
Elaine Little
Ron Keyes
Theresa Durant
Arianna Ospina



**Stations of the Cross Friday at 6P - English in the Church,
Spanish in the Hall - Soup Supper follows in the Hall.**

MARCH INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS

For families in crisis

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences

INTENCIONES DE MARZO DEL PAPA FRANCISCO

Para familias en crisis

Oremos para que las familias rotas descubran la cura de sus heridas a través del perdón, redescubriendo los dones de cada uno, incluso en sus diferencias.

This Week's Readings

THE FOURTH WEEK OF LENT

Monday; March 31st

1st Reading: Isaiah 65:17-21

Psalm 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b

I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

Gospel: John 4:43-54

Tuesday; April 1st

1st Reading: Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12

Psalm 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9

The Lord of hosts is with us; our stronghold is the God of Jacob.

Gospel: John 5:1-16

Wednesday; April 2nd

1st Reading: Isaiah 49:8-15

Psalm 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18

The Lord is gracious and merciful.

Gospel: John 5:17-30

Thursday; April 3rd

1st Reading: Exodus 32:7-14

Psalm 106:19-20, 21-22, 23

Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.

Gospel: John 5:31-47

Friday; April 4th

1st Reading: Wisdom 2:1a, 12-22

Psalm 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted.

Gospel: John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday; April 5th

1st Reading: Jeremiah 11:18-20

Psalm 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12

O Lord, my God, in you I take refuge.

Gospel: John 7:40-53

MEDITATION OF THE DAY



No Need for Signs and Wonders

To attain the living waters...we must also allow ourselves to be led with docility through the way the Lord has outlined for us.

There is a great way, common to all souls without exception: humility and conformity to the will of God. It has been said that

God exalts the humble and humbles the proud; the mysteries of God, hidden from the wise and the prudent, are revealed to the little ones. This is the only way that leads to the living waters. Yet along this way there are some rocky places where it is difficult to walk, while in other places it is smoother and covered with new grass; one part of the road is scorched by the sun, while the other part is shady.

The Good Shepherd leads his sheep as he thinks best. He leaves some souls in the difficult passes for a long time to make them stronger because he has the intention of leading them to a greater height. Saint Teresa remained fourteen years unable to meditate except by reading; even this was wearisome for her. During his apostolic voyages, Blessed Diego of Cádiz, although he exerted a profound influence on souls, did not find anything except dryness, confusion, and filial fear in his daily three hours of mental prayer; only very rarely did he feel and taste the sweetness of the divine charity which burned in him.

If Our Lord raises the Marys instead of the Marthas to contemplation, he also reserves for them, in the midst of their contemplation, some crosses that are much more painful. Without suffering as much, the Marthas too attain the living waters. ... They quench their thirst and are satiated in proportion to their desire. ... A truly humble person ought to be content with the road along which our Lord leads it; it then enjoys divine wisdom and the light of life, even if not always fully conscious of it. We cannot better condense this doctrine, nor better penetrate it and convince ourselves that it is truly the traditional doctrine of the whole Church, than by reading *The Imitation of Christ* on the necessity of listening to the word of God with humility, and by reading the following prayer to implore the grace of devotion: "Speak, O Lord, because your servant listens. You alone have the words of eternal life; make them descend like dew so that my soul may not become like earth without water." —FATHER REGINALD GARRIGOU-

LAGRANGE, O.P.

Father Garrigou-Lagrance († 1964) was a prolific Dominican theologian and spiritual writer. He was the theology doctoral advisor of the future St. John Paul II. / From *Knowing the Love of God: Lessons from a Spiritual Master*. Raymond Smith, o.p., & Rod Gorton, trs. © 2015, Lighthouse Catholic Media, DeKalb, IL. Excerpt from *Magnificat Magazine*, Meditation of the Day, March 30, 2025

HOMILY NOTES



Hoy es el último domingo de marzo dedicado a San José. Cerraremos el mes con dos oraciones finales.

Sobre este gran santo, padre adoptivo de Cristo, el Papa León XIII dijo: «Es de suma importancia para los cristianos, al honrar a la Virgen Madre de Dios, invocar constantemente con profunda piedad y confianza a su castísimo esposo, San José. Tenemos la firme convicción de que tal es el especial deseo de la misma Santísima Virgen».



Today, is the last Sunday in the month of March devoted to Saint Joseph. We will close the month with two final prayers.

About this great saint, the foster father of Christ, Pope Leo XIII said, "It greatly behooves Christians, while honoring the Virgin Mother of God, constantly to invoke with deep piety and confidence her most chaste spouse, St. Joseph. We have a well grounded conviction that such is the special desire of the Blessed Virgin herself."

DEVOCIONES DE MARZO EN HONOR A SAN JOSÉ

PARA EL DOMINGO (Y MIÉRCOLES): ORACIÓN A SAN JOSÉ, PATRÓN DE LA IGLESIA UNIVERSAL

Oh Glorioso San José, Patrono de la Iglesia Universal, te imploramos que obtengas de los Corazones de Jesús y María la preservación de nuestra Comunidad Católica remanente y de todos sus miembros, de toda división, disensión y discordia. Tú, fiel guardián de la Sagrada Familia, concede que nuestra familia espiritual –todos los miembros de nuestra Comunidad Católica remanente– estén siempre unidos en los lazos de la fe y la caridad, y permanezcan siempre con un solo corazón, mente y alma en los Corazones de Jesús y María. San José, protector especial de nuestra Comunidad, guíanos, bendícenos y protégenos contra los ataques de todos nuestros enemigos y detractores. Por nuestro Señor Jesucristo, que vives y reinas con el Padre y el Espíritu Santo, un solo Dios, por los siglos de los siglos. Amén.

LUNES: ORACIÓN POR UNA FE VIVA

Oh, feliz y dichoso San José, heredero de la fe de todos los Patriarcas, dignate obtenernos esta hermosa y preciosa virtud. Aumenta en nosotros una fe viva, fundamento de toda santidad, esa fe sin la cual nadie puede agradar a Dios. Consíguenos esa fe que triunfa sobre todas las tentaciones del mundo y conquista el respeto humano, que nada puede quebrantar y que se dirige únicamente a Dios. Haz que, a tu ejemplo, vivamos por la fe, sometiendo nuestro corazón y entendimiento a Dios, para que un día podamos contemplar en el Cielo lo que ahora creemos firmemente en la tierra. Amén.

FUENTE y Fuente de oración [https://www.salvemariaregina.info/Prayers/March.html#:~:text=in Honor of Saint Joseph&text=O Glorious St.,division, dissension, and discord](https://www.salvemariaregina.info/Prayers/March.html#:~:text=in Honor of Saint Joseph&text=O Glorious St.,division, dissension, and discord;); <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/view.cfm?>

MARCH DEVOTIONS IN HONOR OF SAINT JOSEPH

FOR SUNDAY (& WEDNESDAY): PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH, PATRON OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH

O Glorious St. Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church, we implore thee to obtain from the Hearts of Jesus and Mary, the preservation of our remnant Catholic Community and all its members, from all division, dissension, and discord. Do thou, faithful guardian of the Holy Family, grant that our spiritual family – all the members of our remnant Catholic Community – shall ever be united in the bonds of faith and charity, and shall remain always of one heart, mind, and soul in the Hearts of Jesus and Mary. St. Joseph, special protector of our Community, do thou guide, bless, and protect us against the attacks of all our enemies and detractors. Through Our Lord Jesus Christ, Who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, One God, forever, unto ages of ages. Amen.

MONDAY: PRAYER FOR A LIVELY FAITH

O happy, blissful St. Joseph, heir of the faith of all the Patriarchs, vouchsafe to obtain for us this beautiful and precious virtue. Increase in us a lively faith, the foundation of all sanctity, that faith without which no one can be pleasing to God. Obtain for us that faith which triumphs over all temptations of the world and conquers human respect, which can be shaken by nothing, and which is directed solely toward God. Cause us, after thine example, to live by faith, to subject our hearts and understandings to God, that one day, we may behold in Heaven what we now firmly believe on earth. Amen.

Sources: <https://www.salvemariaregina.info/Prayers/March.html#:~:text=in Honor of Saint Joseph&text=O Glorious St.,division, dissension, and discord>; <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/view.cfm?id=755>

Memorial Wall Tiles Purchases End TODAY!

STM Parish Memorial Wall Tile Campaign ends today! This is your last chance EVER to memorialize your loved ones on our Wall. Jim & Barbara Collins will be available after both Masses today to accept your tile design & payment (cash, check, or credit card) so that your tile may be displayed on the Memorial Wall. Jim & Barbara can also help with the design of your tile.

Help in Spanish will be available after the 1230p Mass.

Questions? See Jim and Barbara Collins after Mass.



Please Join Our Prayer Campaign

40 Days for Life, an internationally coordinated 40-day campaign to end abortion locally through prayer, fasting, community outreach, and peaceful all-day vigils outside abortion businesses, invites every STM parishioner to join us in praying to end abortion. We started praying Ash Wednesday, March 5, and will continue throughout the year. There's no greater way to focus on repentance during Lent than to pray to end abortion in California. **Questions?** Contact parish coordinators for ProLife Kathy or Greg DeCristofaro at worshipworks@att.net or 530-873-4132.

GET YOUR WINE AT NEW CLAIRVAUX RECEIVE A DONATION FOR 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? Easy!

- Go to <https://newclairvauxvineyard.square.site> to purchase the wine of your choice. (Or use this QR code

NOTE: If you plan to pick up your wine at New Clairvaux enter the code **FREESHIP** to avoid shipping costs.

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



New Clairvaux Winery & Tasting Room
26240 7th St., Vina, CA., 96092 | 530.839.2200

Questions? See Jim Collins after Mass.



Meeting Reminders

- The C.O.N.T.R.O.L Life Management Program** for Catholic women meet Thursday April 3, 930A to 11A, in the Hall's small room. This group meets weekly thru April 17. Questions? Contact Donna Helgeson 530.282.2132 or dhelg66@gmail.com
- The Prayer Blanket/Shawl Ministry** meet Friday, April 4, 930A to 3P in the Hall's small room. The group meets 1st & 3rd Friday's every month. Questions? Contact Donna Helgeson 530.282.2132 or dhelg66@gmail.com
- Adoration** Friday, April 4, following 830A Mass until 6P.
- Stations of the Cross** Friday April 4 at 6P: English in the Church; Spanish in the Hall. Soup Supper follows in the Hall.
- Women of St. Thomas More** meet Saturday, April 19 at 10A in the Hall's small room.



The Women of STM Make Presentation to CareNet of Paradise



Left to right: Cheryl Barron, Ashley Lundberg, Kathy DeCristofaro, Barbara Collins.

A \$1,000.00 check was presented to CareNet of Paradise for the Center to use in its efforts to support women and families seeking alternatives to abortion. This money comes at a critical time when CareNet & other pro-life organizations face strong, well-funded opposition by groups including the State of California which has allocated a \$20 million "Abortion Practical Support Fund," to

help cover costs like travel, lodging, and meals for women seeking abortions in California; this includes women from other states. California's pro-abortion laws conflict with Catholic teaching. In Pope Saint John Paul II's encyclical, *Evangelium vitae* (1995), no. 72, he wrote, Laws which legitimize the direct killing of innocent human beings through abortion or euthanasia are in complete opposition to the inviolable right to life proper to every individual; they thus deny the equality of everyone before the law.

CareNet provides essential services & support to include pregnancy testing, ultrasound, individual and family counseling and a number of other services. The check was presented on behalf of The Women of STM to Ashley Lundberg-CareNet director of development, by Kathy DeCristofaro-parish pro-life coordinator, Barbara Collins, and Cheryl Barron.

The 40 Days for Life 40-day campaign to end abortion through prayer, fasting, and community outreach is in progress now. Please join us in praying to end abortion. If you would like to donate to CareNet of Paradise please see Kathy DeCristofaro.



WILL YOU HELP K^{OF}C COLLECT CANS FOR LENT?

Please help the Knights of Columbus collect canned foods during Lent now thru Easter Sunday. All donations go to the 1ST Baptist Church Food Pantry which STM supports thru our Table of Plenty donations. **Questions?** Contact Greg DeCristofaro by email GREGDEC@att.net or (530) 873-4132H (530) 588-3790C.

