

# ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH



[www.stmparadise.net](http://www.stmparadise.net) | 530.877.4501 | Email: [office@stmparadise.org](mailto:office@stmparadise.org)

## About St. Thomas More

**Priest Supvr.** Fr Martin J. Ramat  
**Deacons** Mike Mangan, Gary Zellmer, Ray Helgeson  
**Parish Steward** Greg Kidder  
**Secretary** Maresa Kelly  
**Religious Education** Sandra Rodriguez

St. Thomas More Catholic Church  
 767 Elliott Rd. Paradise, CA 95969  
 Office Hrs: Mon. - Thurs. 9a-2p  
 530.877.4501 (Office closed Fri)  
**Mass: Sunday at Noon**

**CONFESSION 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday 5P - 6P**

## Important Dates

12MAR: Grupo de Apoyo Paradise de Mujeres STM 10A  
 12MAR: STM Lenten Series Tuesday 6P  
 13MAR: STM Lenten Series Wed. 10A  
 15MAR: Divine Mercy Chaplet STM 3P  
 15MAR: Estaciones de la Cruz STM 3P  
 15MAR: Soup & Stations of the Cross STM 5P

## Sunday Readings

*Fourth Sunday in Lent*  
*IV Domingo de Cuaresma*  
**1<sup>st</sup> Reading** 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23  
**Psalms** 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6  
*Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!*  
*Te recuerdo, Señor, es mi alegría.*  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** Ephesians 2:4-10  
**Gospel** John 3:14-21



## MEDITATION OF THE DAY

Choosing Light over Darkness

**We have to decide first of all between the prince of this world & Christ. Humanity has gone astray by following the promptings of**

*Meditation of the Day continues on next page*

## MARCH INTENTIONS of the HOLY FATHER

**For the new martyrs**

*We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.*

**Por los nuevos mártires**

*Oramos para que quienes arriesgan su vida por el Evangelio en diversas partes del mundo enciendan a la Iglesia con su valentía y entusiasmo misionero.*

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR SUNDAY MARCH 10<sup>TH</sup>

Jim Gamette †  
 Tomas & Linda Reyes †  
 Marcelo Mendoza †

*For the personal intentions of Dan Focht*  
*For the health & personal intentions of Victoria Wilsey*

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR

Billy Abumada  
 Cathy Larsen  
 Victoria Wilsey  
 Angela Babcock  
 Sharon Calhoun  
 Barbara Collins  
 James & Lillian Daley  
 Victor Garcia  
 Pat Mortensen  
 Pam Casey

Rod Montgomery  
 Carrie Sue Sonsteng  
 Sam Kempner  
 Josie Weaver  
 Denise Hughes  
 Kimberly Helgeson Avoy  
 Diana Wise  
 Bill Bechtold

Sofia Garcia  
 Bruce Hasek  
 Barbara Maldonado  
 Adriana Sepulveda  
 Senona Gonzalez  
 Samia Zumout  
 Karen Reynolds  
 Patricia Laird  
 David Jorgensen  
 Andrea Inzunza

## This Week's Readings

### FOURTH WEEK OF LENT

#### Monday; March 11<sup>th</sup>

Isaiah 65:17-21

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

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

Gospel: John 4:43-54

#### Tuesday; March 12<sup>th</sup>

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; March 13<sup>th</sup>

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; March 14<sup>th</sup>

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; March 15<sup>th</sup>

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; March 16<sup>th</sup>

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 continued from front page.*

## MEDITATION OF THE DAY Choosing Light over Darkness

*pride and of pleasure-seeking egotism. The new Christian is first of all someone who wants to break with this error and to follow the Son of Man, who came not to be served but to serve and give his life....*

**The renunciation of the “poms” of Satan** [at baptism] only sets the seal of reality on the obligation. What in fact are the *pompa diaboli*? By this term Christian antiquity understood all the public manifestations of the life of a pagan city in which its paganism was more or less explicitly asserted, such as the theater, the circuses, and so on. The modern equivalent is obvious.

**There is no need at all for the Christian to lead a life completely separate from that of his contemporaries...but he must be ready to refuse unhesitatingly to take any part in activities or amusements which may in themselves be innocent, as soon as it is clear that they would lead him to infidelity or that his participation would encourage others weaker than himself. In other words...really to renounce sin, we must be ready to renounce freely everything but the one thing necessary: God and his will as it is known to us....**

**It is in this sense that Saint Paul speaks of crucifying the flesh** with its lusts (Gal 5:24) and Saint John of not loving the world or the things of the world (1 Jn 2:15). This does not imply a condemnation of the body or of the creation in general. For Saint Paul, the “flesh” is not the body as opposed to the soul.... The world, for Saint John, is not creation as God made it. It is what the “Prince of this world” and the sinners who follow him have made it. It is no longer the dwelling-place of the children of God and his sanctuary, but the wilderness left by his absence, where everything is organized with a view to sin....

**The Christian, in the Church, must always await the return of Christ**, who died and rose again once for all, bringing with him, as well as death to the present world, the resurrection of believers, the new creation of a world regenerated. -FATHER LOUIS BOUYER

*Father Bouyer († 2004) was a French priest, theologian, author, and convert. He was a member of the Congregation of the Oratory of Jesus and Mary Immaculate. / From Christian Initiation, J.R. Foster, Tr. © 2018 by Cluny Media, P.O. Box 1664, Providence, RI 02901.*

*Excerpt from Magnificat Magazine, Meditation of the Day, March 10, 2024*

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE** SPRING CAMPAIGN IS ON!  
February 14 - March 23

**Please pray the daily intentions!**

*The intention for Sunday; March 10 (Day 26): Pray that those who have forgotten their purpose, may discover it in God, and therefore, have the courage to choose life.*

*You can sign up for hours at: <https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/chiconorth>  
Questions? See Kathy DiChristofaro after Mass.*

**¡Bienvenido a marchar! La devoción de este mes a San José, este gran santo, padre adoptivo de Cristo. La solemnidad de San José es el 19 de marzo.** "Conviene mucho a los cristianos, honrando 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 la especial deseo de la misma Santísima Virgen." --Papa León XIII



**Welcome to March! This month's devotion to St. Joseph, this great saint, the foster father of Christ. The solemnity of Saint Joseph is March 19.** "It greatly behooves Christians, while honoring the Virgin Mother of God, constantly to invoke with deep piety and confidence her most chaste spouse, Saint Joseph. We

have a well grounded conviction that such is the special desire of the Blessed Virgin herself." --Pope Leo XIII

### San José y la Cuaresma

Austera es el lema de las celebraciones litúrgicas del tiempo de Cuaresma. La Iglesia ha proclamado un tiempo de ayuno y abnegación y enseña con el ejemplo. El domingo no se rezará el Gloria, mientras que el Aleluya estará totalmente ausente durante toda la Cuaresma. Sin embargo, hay dos excepciones a la austeridad de Cuaresma:

1. La Solemnidad de San José (19 de marzo). La Solemnidad de San José, Patrono de la Iglesia Universal y padre adoptivo de Jesús, es una fiesta de mayor rango: un día santo de precepto en algunos países y, en algunos, ¡incluso un día festivo civil! También en
2. La Anunciación (25 de marzo) cuando la Iglesia deja a un lado su púrpura por vestiduras blancas, canta el Gloria y reza el Credo. (Hacemos una genuflexión ante el "et Incarnatus est" en la Anunciación).

### UNA REFLEXIÓN SOBRE SAN JOSÉ

La reflexión del 10 de marzo a continuación es un extracto de Devociones diarias a San José de San Alfonso de Ligorio, adaptado por Hugh J. O'Connell C.S.S.R. Ha sido tomado de los escritos de San Alfonso de Ligorio, de los cuales cada línea da testimonio del respeto, la confianza y el amor que San Alfonso sentía por el padre adoptivo de Jesús.

*San Pablo escribe que en la próxima vida Jesucristo 'pagará a cada uno según sus obras (Rom. 2:6). ¡Qué gran gloria no debemos suponer que ha otorgado a San José, que tanto le sirvió y amó mientras vivió en la tierra! Nuestro Señor ha prometido una recompensa al que dé un vaso de agua fría a los pobres en Su nombre. ¿Cuál, entonces, debe ser la recompensa de San José, que puede decir a Jesucristo: 'No sólo te proporcioné alimento, vivienda y vestidos, sino que te salvé de la muerte, librándote de manos de Herodes.*

*San José, aumenta nuestro celo por crecer en la santidad con la esperanza de la recompensa eterna.*

Fuente: <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/view.cfm?id=755>; <https://www.ecatholic2000.com/cls/untitled-116.shtml#:~:text=Joseph%2C%20whose%20protection%20is%20so,through%20Jesus%20Christ%2C%20our%20Lord>

Fuente de oración: Prayer Book, The by Reverend John P. O'Connell, M.A., S.T.D. and Jex Martin, M.A., The Catholic Press, Inc., Chicago, Illinois, 1954

### St. Joseph and Lent

Austere is the watchword for the liturgical celebrations of the Season of Lent. The Church has proclaimed a time of fasting and self-denial and she teaches by example. The Gloria will not be prayed on Sunday, while the Alleluia will be entirely absent throughout Lent. However, there are two exceptions to the Lenten austerity:

1. The Solemnity of St. Joseph (March 19). The Solemnity of St. Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church and foster father of Jesus, is a feast of highest rank—a holy day of obligation in some countries and, in some, even a civil holiday! Also, on
2. The Annunciation (March 25) when the Church sets aside her purple for white vestments, sings the Gloria and prays the Creed. (We genuflect at the "et Incarnatus est" on the Annunciation.)

### A REFLECTION ON SAINT JOSEPH

The reflection for March 10 below is an excerpt from Daily Devotions to St. Joseph by St. Alphonsus Liguori, adapted by Hugh J. O'Connell C.S.S.R. It has been taken from the writings of St. Alphonsus Liguori of which every line bears testimony to the respect, confidence, and love which St. Alphonsus felt for the foster father of Jesus.

*St. Paul writes that in the next life Jesus Christ 'will render to every man according to His works (Rom. 2:6). What great glory must we not suppose that He has bestowed upon St. Joseph, who served and loved Him so much while He lived on earth! Our Lord has promised a reward to him who gives a cup of cold water to the poor in His name. What, then, must be the reward of St. Joseph, who can say to Jesus Christ: 'I not only provided Thee with food, with a dwelling, and with clothes, but I saved Thee from death, delivering Thee from the hands of Herod.*

*St. Joseph, increase our zeal for growing in holiness by the hope of eternal reward.*

Source: <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/view.cfm?id=755>; <https://www.ecatholic2000.com/cls/untitled-116.shtml#:~:text=Joseph%2C%20whose%20protection%20is%20so,through%20Jesus%20Christ%2C%20our%20Lord>

Prayer Source: Prayer Book, The by Reverend John P. O'Connell, M.A., S.T.D. and Jex Martin, M.A., The Catholic Press, Inc., Chicago, Illinois, 1954

**PARISH UPDATES**

*The STM DateBook*

☑ **TODAY!** March 10 | **¡HOY!** 10 de marzo

**Last day for picture taking for the church directory!** If you haven't had your family picture taken go to the school multipurpose room after mass today!

**¡Último día para tomar fotografías para el directorio de la iglesia!** Si no se ha tomado una foto familiar, ¡vaya hoy al salón de usos múltiples de la escuela después de la misa!



**ON SALE AFTER MASS:** St. Vincent de Paul Hawaii Trip Raffle Tickets! The winner will receive airfare + accommodations at the Sheraton on Maui for two! Plus a rental car and a \$500 credit card. Tickets are \$10 each. The drawing is in April. Questions? See Dirk Wohlau after Mass.

**A LA VENTA DESPUÉS DE LA MISA:** ¡Boletos para la rifa del viaje a Hawaii de St. Vincent de Paul! ¡El ganador recibirá pasaje aéreo + alojamiento en el Sheraton en Maui para dos personas! Además de un auto de alquiler y una tarjeta de crédito de \$500. Los boletos cuestan \$10 cada uno. El sorteo es en abril. ¿Preguntas? Ver a Dirk Wohlau después de la misa.

☑ **Tuesday, March 12 | Martes 12 de marzo**

Grupo de Apoyo Paradise de Mujeres STM 10A  
Lectio Divina (Divine Reading) Contemplation & Meditation Session STM 6P  
Sesión de contemplación y meditación de Lectio Divina (Lectura Divina) STM 6P

☑ **Wednesday, March 13 | Miércoles 13 de marzo**

Lectio Divina (Divine Reading) Contemplation & Meditation Session STM 10A  
Sesión de contemplación y meditación de Lectio Divina (Lectura Divina) STM 10A

☑ **Friday, March 15 | Viernes 15 de marzo**

Estaciones de la Cruz STM 3P  
Soup & Stations of the Cross STM 5P

☑ **Sunday, March 17 | Domingo 17 de marzo**

ROSARY 30 minutes before Mass next Sunday  
ROSARIO 30 minutos antes de la Misa el próximo domingo

**All are invited**

**to the St. Thomas More Parish Lenten Series  
Lectio Divina (Divine Reading)**

*An excellent session on meditation & contemplation in light of Teresa of Avila, Thomas Kempis, and Thomas Keating. Learn tips to help you pray more deeply & contemplatively. Let's deepen our prayer & reflection during Lent. Sessions led by Deacons Tom & Mike with two times available.*

6 p.m. Session

Tues.; March 12

10 a.m. Session

Wed.; March 13

**SAVE THE DATE!**



Eucharistic Amazement 1-Day Retreat  
With Special Guest Retreat Leader  
Dr. Anthony Lilles  
Saturday; April 6 at 8:30A

*Dr. Anthony Lilles will lead us on a one day amazing Eucharistic journey. Watch the bulletin for more info!*

The St. Thomas More Parish family offers our deepest condolences to the the family and friends of Agnes Lynch. Agnes passed away Feb. 28. Funeral details will be published once available.

*Please add Agnes to your prayers.*

**Women of STM Scholarships Available**

The Women of STM are again offering \$500 scholarships to parishioners. Application packets are available in the church office & online at <https://www.stmparadise.net/> Deadline to turn in your application is Monday, April 15.

**MINISTRIES PHOTOS UPDATE**

Photo taking for the parish directory is going much faster than anticipated. Here's an update on group photos:

1. **Are you a member of an STM Ministry?** If yes:
2. All Ministry group photos will be taken either before or immediately after Mass today, March 10.
3. Your group Leader should have contacted you with the exact time.