

# 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

**12MAY: THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD**  
 12MAY: **HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!**   
 14MAY: Grupo de Apoyo Paradise de Mujeres STM 10A  
 17MAY: Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary STM 3P  
 19MAY: Rosary 30 minutes before Mass STM 1130A  
 27MAY: MEMORIAL DAY - STM OFFICE CLOSED

## Sunday Readings

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord  
 Solemnidad de la Ascensión del Señor

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading** Acts 1:1-11

**Psalm** 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Entre voces de júbilo, Dios asciende a su trono. Aleluya.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** Ephesians 1:17-23

**Gospel** Mark 16:15-20



## MEDITATION OF THE DAY

How We Are Kept from the Evil One

**Dear Mama: Yesterday I saw Papa.** We had an excellent parlor visit!  
 He is two inches away from the faith and a mere nothing would send him to

*Meditation of the Day continues on next page*

## MAY INTENTIONS of the HOLY FATHER

**For the formation of religious and seminarians**

We pray that religious women & men, & seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual & community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel.

**Para la formación de religiosos y seminaristas.**

Oramos para que las religiosas, religiosos y seminaristas crezcan en sus propias vocaciones a través de su formación humana, pastoral, espiritual y comunitaria, llevándolos a ser testigos creíbles del Evangelio.

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR SUNDAY MAY 12<sup>TH</sup>

Al Penna †

Larry Penna †

Rose Marie Leach †

Tammy Weaver †

For the intentions of Mellonee Faultry

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR

Cathy Larsen  
 Diana Wise  
 Angela Babcock  
 Sharon Calboun  
 Jeff & Diane Clark  
 Pat Mortensen  
 Stephanie Lowman  
 Ben Richards

Martha Martinez  
 Rod Montgomery  
 Carrie Sue Sonsteng  
 Sam Kempner  
 Tylor Koski  
 Denise Hughes  
 Kimberly Helgeson Avoy  
 Denis Helgeson  
 Sofia Garcia

Andrea Inzunza  
 Victor Ferrer  
 Bruce Hasek  
 Barbara Maldonado  
 Adriana Sepulveda  
 Senona Gonzalez  
 Samia Zumout  
 Karen Reynolds  
 David Jorgensen

See Prayer for Healing on back page.

## This Week's Readings

### THE SEVENTH WEEK OF EASTER

**Monday; May 13<sup>th</sup>** Optional Memorial of Our Lady of Fatima

1st Reading: Isaiah 61:9-11  
 Psalm 45:11-12, 14-15, 16-17  
 Listen to me, daughter; see & bend your ear.  
 Gospel: Luke 11:27-28

**Tuesday; May 14<sup>th</sup>** Feast of Saint Matthias, Apostle

1st Reading: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26  
 Psalm 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8  
 The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.  
 Gospel: John 15:9-17

**Wednesday; May 15<sup>th</sup>**

1st Reading: Acts 20:28-38  
 Psalm 68:29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab  
 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth.  
 Gospel: John 17:11b-19

**Thursday; May 16<sup>th</sup>**

1st Reading: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11  
 Psalm 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11  
 Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.  
 Gospel: John 17:20-26

**Friday; May 17<sup>th</sup>**

1st Reading: Acts 25:13b-21  
 Psalm 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab  
 The Lord has established his throne in heaven.  
 Gospel: John 21:15-19

**Saturday; May 18<sup>th</sup>**

1st Reading: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31  
 Psalm 114:4, 5 and 7  
 The just will gaze on your face, O Lord  
 Gospel: John 16:23b-28



*Meditation of the Day continued from front page.*

### MEDITATION OF THE DAY How We Are Kept from the Evil One

*he feet of Christ. A little time and the thing will be done. How wonderful are the ways of the Lord! I'm going to write him some more letters to direct his mind to things above, and he will not die without the grace of the Lord. May his example bring light to others and make them reflect a little on the goal of their life....*

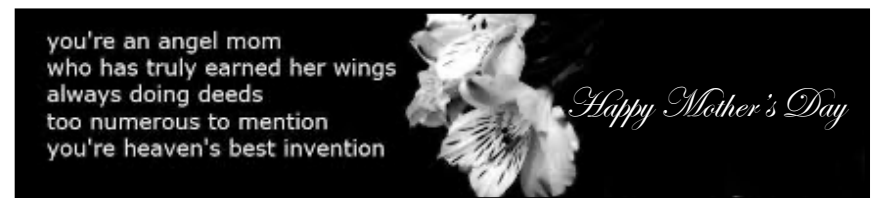
*In yesterday's letter you asked me if I would want to change anything that has happened. No indeed. I have wanted you to understand this: At present, I am living through fragrant hours, certainly the most beautiful of my life; never could I have attained so close a union with God, and without any merit on my part. It is all grace.... Soon I shall be ready to be plucked like a fragile, simple little flower. Be sure that the Child Jesus, who loves small flowers, will not fail to come and pick this one to put in his bouquet. For the present, the little flower has still to open, grow, and clothe itself in beautiful hues, so as to delight the heavenly Gardener. I await the divine dew without which I would wither, and by dint of asking for it I shall end by receiving it in abundance....*

**Christ has said:** *Father, I do not pray for the world, but for those whom you have given me (Jn 17:9).*

*That means that the world belongs to the devil and is lost. If you seek the world, you are seeking the devil and with him your own loss. If you belong to God, you seek love and the cross of Christ. Jesus will certainly give you his cross, and this will be the plank of your salvation.... There is no salvation outside of Christ crucified. Until tomorrow, dear Mama, I leave you and embrace you a thousand times. —SERVANT OF GOD JACQUES FESCH*

*Jacques Fesch († 1957) was a murderer who experienced a profound conversion before his execution in a French prison. He wrote these words shortly before he died. / From Light over the Scaffold: Prison Letters of Jacques Fesch and Cell 18: Unedited Letters of Jacques Fesch, Sr. Mary Thomas Noble, O.P., Tr. © 1996, The Fathers and Brothers of the Society of St. Paul, ST PAULS/Alba House, Staten Island, NY. www.stpauls.us.*

*Excerpt from Magnificat Magazine, Meditation of the Day, May 12, 2024*



### 40 Days For Life Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreats are a beautiful opportunity for any person who has struggled with the emotional or spiritual pain of an abortion.

The retreat is designed to help an individual experience the mercy and compassion of God and be supported by spiritual and emotional care. The next retreat will be in Spanish and will be held June 14-16, 2024 at the Mercy Center in Auburn.

For more information email [projectrachel@scd.org](mailto:projectrachel@scd.org)



**Mayo es el mes de María. Durante siglos, la Iglesia Católica ha reservado todo el mes de mayo para honrar a María, Madre de Dios.** En la época

medieval abundaban costumbres similares,

todas centradas en la práctica de expulsar el invierno, ya que el 1 de mayo se consideraba el comienzo de un nuevo crecimiento. Además, surgió la tradición del Tricesimum, o "Devoción de los treinta días a María", o "Mes de la Dama", el evento se llevó a cabo del 15 de agosto al 14 de septiembre y todavía se observa en algunas áreas.

La idea de un mes específicamente dedicado a María se remonta a la época barroca. Aunque no siempre se celebró durante mayo, el Mes de María incluyó 30 ejercicios espirituales diarios en honor a María. Fue en esta época que se combinaron el Mes de María y Mayo, haciendo de mayo el Mes de María con devociones especiales organizadas cada día durante todo el mes. Esta costumbre se generalizó especialmente durante el siglo XIX y se mantiene en la práctica en la actualidad. Este mes es un momento especial para que los católicos rindan homenaje a nuestra Santísima Madre María. Contrariamente a lo que se piensa erróneamente, no la adoramos. Como católicos, honramos a María.

- En mayo se conmemoran dos celebraciones litúrgicas marianas:
- **El 20 de mayo** celebramos la Memoria de la Santísima Virgen María, Madre de la Iglesia. La liturgia conmemora el período de tiempo posterior a la Ascensión cuando los apóstoles se reunieron en oración con María y las mujeres en el Cenáculo.
- **El 31 de mayo** celebramos la Conmemoración de la Visitación; Cuando María se enteró de que su pariente anciana, Isabel, estaba esperando un hijo, se apresuró a ayudarla. El servicio de María llevó a Cristo al hogar de Zacarías e Isabel.

### LA ORACIÓN MEMORARÍA A LA SANTÍSIMA VIRGEN

Acuérdate, oh piadosísima Virgen María,  
que nunca se supo que cualquiera que huyera a tu protección,  
imploró tu ayuda, o buscó tu intercesión, quedó desatendido.  
Inspirado por esta confianza, vuelo hacia ti,  
Oh Virgen de las vírgenes, Madre mía.  
A ti vengo, ante ti estoy, pecador y triste.  
Oh Madre del Verbo Encarnado, no desprecies mis peticiones,  
pero en tu misericordia escúchame y respóndeme.  
Amén.

Fuente: <https://ourladyofhopegrafton.org/may-the-month-of-mary#:~:text=For%20centuries%2C%20the%20Catholic%20Church,the%20start>

Oración: <https://laycistercians.com/prayers-to-blessed-mother/>

May is a month devoted to the Blessed Virgin Mary



**May is the Month of Mary. For centuries, the Catholic Church has set aside the entire month of May to honor Mary, Mother of God.** In

medieval times, similar customs

abounded, all centering around the practice of expelling winter, as May 1st was considered the start of new growth. Also, the tradition of Tricesimum, or "Thirty-Day Devotion to Mary," came into being or, "Lady Month," the event was held from Aug. 15 to Sept. 14 and is still observed in some areas.

The idea of a month specifically dedicated to Mary can be traced back to baroque times. Although it wasn't always held during May, Mary Month included 30 daily spiritual exercises honoring Mary. It was in this era that Mary's Month & May were combined, making May the Month of Mary with special devotions organized on each day throughout the month. This custom became especially widespread during the 19th century and remains in practice today. This month is a special time for Catholics to pay homage to our Blessed Mother Mary. Contrary to misconceptions, we do not worship her. As Catholics, we honor Mary.

Two Marian liturgical celebrations are commemorated in May:

- **May 20** we celebrate The Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church. The liturgy commemorates the period of time after the Ascension when the apostles were gathered in prayer with Mary and the women in the Upper Room.
- **May 31** we celebrate the Commemoration of the Visitation; when Mary heard that her elderly relative, Elizabeth, was expecting a child, she hurried to help her. Mary's service brought Christ to the home of Zechariah and Elizabeth.

### THE MEMORARE PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary,  
that never was it known that anyone who fled to your  
protection,  
implored your help, or sought your intercession, was left  
unaided.  
Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto you,  
O Virgin of virgins, my Mother.  
To you do I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful.  
O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions,  
but in your mercy hear and answer me.  
Amen.

Source: <https://ourladyofhopegrafton.org/may-the-month-of-mary#:~:text=For%20centuries%2C%20the%20Catholic%20Church,the%20start%20of%20new%20growth>

Prayer: <https://laycistercians.com/prayers-to-blessed-mother/>

### PARISH UPDATES



**Farewell Dinner June 2 After Mass**  
 The Eucharistic Missionaries of Jesus Infante & Our Lady of Fatima Sisters will be leaving soon. The Hispanic Community of St. Thomas More will prepare a dinner for the parish to say farewell to Sister Zuly, Sister Ana Luisa, and Sister Antonia Despedida on Sunday, June 2 after Mass.  
**Please save the date!**



**St. Thomas More Congratulates The Eucharistic Missionaries of Jesus Infante & Our Lady of Fatima (MEJIF) Sisters on Their Graduation**

On Saturday, May 4, the MEJIF Sisters graduated from St. Mary's University of

Minnesota. Both Sister Ana Luisa Vazquez Lopez and Sister Zuly Cardenas Carreon received Science Degrees in Healthcare & Administration of Human Services. Sister Antonia Sanchez Nuñez received a Master's Degree in Integral Services, which deals with various aspects of aging, human development, and promoting health in a variety of settings.

### The STM DateBook

Monday, May 13 : Our Lady of Fatima

**Tuesday, May 14 | Martes 14 de Mayo**  
*Grupo de Apoyo Paradise de Mujeres STM 10A*

**Friday, May 17 | Viernes 17 de Mayo**  
*Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary STM 3P*  
*Coronilla y Rosario de la Divina Misericordia STM 3P*

**Sunday, May 19 | Domingo 19 de Mayo**  
*Rosary 30 minutes before Mass STM 1130A*  
*Rosario 30 minutos antes de la Misa STM 1130A*



### Prayer for Healing to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal

Mary Immaculate, you have given yourself to us as Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal. You have asked us to pray with confidence, and we will receive great graces. We know your compassion, because you saw your Son suffer and die for us. In your union with his suffering you became the mother of us all.

Mary, my mother teach me to understand my suffering as you do and to endure it in union with the suffering of Jesus. In your motherly love, calm my fears and increase my trust in God's loving care.

According to God's plan, obtain for me the healing I need. Intercede with your Son that I may have the strength I need to work for God's glory and the salvation of the world. Amen.

Source: <https://laycistercians.com/prayers-to-blessed-mother/>



### The Eucharistic Missionaries of Jesus Infante & Our Lady of Fatima (MEJIF) Sisters Renew Their Vows

St. Thomas the Apostle, 1330 Bird St, Oroville, CA. 95969  
 Monday; May 13, 2024  
 Mass 5p



**The St. Vincent de Paul raffle prize winner for the Hawaii trip has been announced.** This year's winner is Shirley Anderson of Rancho Murrieta who bought her ticket at St. Joseph Church in Elk Grove. Thanks to all of our supporters at STM who purchased tickets. The raffle was a big win for St. Thomas More, too! We raised \$3,000.00 for our local St. Vincent de Paul conference here at St. Thomas More.