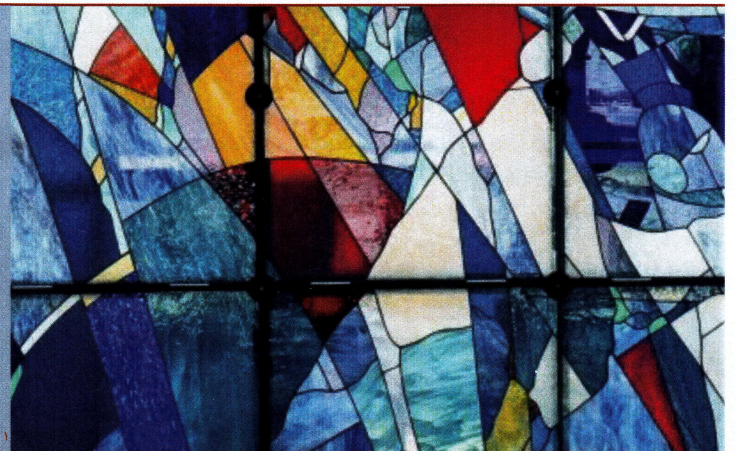
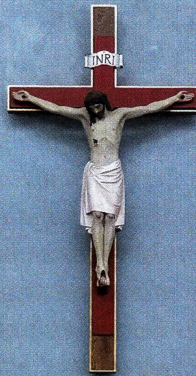
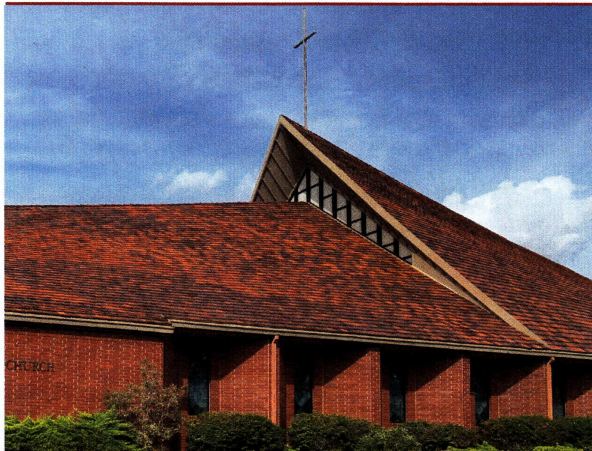


ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH



www.stmparadise.net

530.877.4501

Email: 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 1st Wednesday 5P - 6P

Important Dates

01JAN: Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 01JAN: STM OFFICE CLOSED
 06JAN: Adoration... Most Blessed Sacrament STM 10A
 07JAN: Crown Rosary & Prayers STM 10A
 09JAN: Grupo de Apoyo Paradise de Mujeres STM 10a
 10JAN: Sacrament of Reconciliation STM 5P
 15JAN: MLK Day / STM Office Closed

Sunday Readings

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
Fiesta de la Sagrada Familia

1st Reading Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5.

Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.
 Dichoso el que teme al Señor.

2nd Reading Colossians 3:12-21 or 3:12-17

Gospel Luke 2:22-40



MEDITATION OF THE DAY

The First & Vital Cell of Society

Since the Creator of all things has established conjugal society as the beginning & basis of human society and, by his grace, has

Meditation of the Day continues on next page

DECEMBER INTENTIONS of the HOLY FATHER

For persons with disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

Para personas con discapacidad

Oramos para que las personas que viven con discapacidad estén en el centro de atención de la sociedad y para que las instituciones puedan ofrecer programas inclusivos que valoren su participación activa.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR SUNDAY DECEMBER 31ST

Dan Hegenbart †

Donna Jansson †

Parmenio Ospina †

For the intentions of Arminda Rodriguez on her birthday

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR



Patricia Laird
 Cathy Larsen
 David Moreno
 Angela Babcock
 Sharon Calhoun
 Barbara Collins
 David Jorgenson
 Mary Helgeson Dentino
 and baby Chloe

Rod Montgomery
 Kathy & Greg DeCristofaro
 Carrie Sue Sonsteng
 Sam Kempner
 Larry Penna
 Denise Hughes

Kimberly Helgeson Avoy
 Sofia Garcia
 Bruce Hasek
 Barbara Maldonado
 Renee Kelly
 Senona Gonzalez
 Samia Zumout
 Karen Reynolds



This Week's Readings

CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY

Monday; January 1st

SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD
THE OCTAVE DAY OF CHRISTMAS

1st Reading: Numbers 6:22-27
Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8
May God bless us in his mercy.

2nd Reading: Galatians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 2:16-21
MEMORIAL OF SAINTS BASIL THE GREAT & GREGORY NAZIANZEN, BISHOPS AND DOCTORS OF THE CHURCH

Tuesday; January 2nd

1st Reading: 1 John 2:22-28
Psalm 98:1, 2-3AB, 3CD-4
All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.
Gospel: John 1:19-28

Wednesday; January 3rd

1st Reading: 1 John 2:29-3:6
Psalm 98:1, 3CD-4, 5-6
All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.
Gospel: John 1:29-34

Thursday; January 4th

MEMORIAL OF SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON, RELIGIOUS

1st Reading: 1 John 3:7-10
Psalm 98:1, 7-8, 9
All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.
Gospel: John 1:35-42

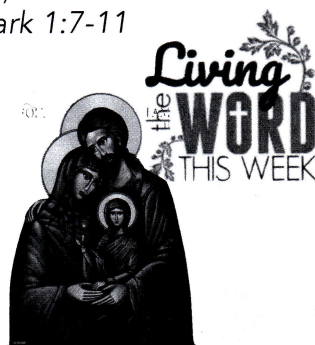
Friday; January 5th

MEMORIAL OF SAINT JOHN NEUMANN, BISHOP

1st Reading: 1 John 3:11-21
Psalm 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5
Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.
Gospel: John 1:43-51

Saturday; January 6th

1st Reading: 1 John 5:5-13
Psalm 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20
Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.
Gospel: Mark 1:7-11



Meditation of the Day continued from front page.

MEDITATION OF THE DAY The First and Vital Cell of Society

made it a great mystery in Christ and the Church (Eph 5:32), the apostolate of married persons and families is of unique importance for the Church and civil society.

Christian husbands and wives are cooperators in grace and witnesses of faith for each other, their children, and all others in their household. They are the first to communicate the faith to their children and to educate them by word and example for the Christian and apostolic life. They prudently help them in the choice of their vocation and carefully promote any sacred vocation which they may discern in them.

It has always been the duty of Christian married partners but today it is the greatest part of their apostolate to manifest and prove by their own way of life the indissolubility and sacredness of the marriage bond, strenuously to affirm the right and duty of parents and guardians to educate children in a Christian manner, and to defend the dignity and lawful autonomy of the family. They and the rest of the faithful, therefore, should cooperate with men of good will to ensure the preservation of these rights in civil legislation and to make sure that governments give due attention to the needs of the family.

This mission—to be the first and vital cell of society—the family has received from God. It will fulfill this mission if it appears as the domestic sanctuary of the Church by reason of the mutual affection of its members and the prayer that they offer to God in common, if the whole family makes itself a part of the liturgical worship of the Church, and if it provides active hospitality and promotes justice and other good works for the service of all the brethren in need.

Christian families can give effective testimony to Christ before the world by remaining faithful to the Gospel and by providing a model of Christian marriage through their whole way of life.

-APOSTOLICAM ACTUOSITATEM

From the Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity, *Apostolicam Actuositatem*, solemnly promulgated by Pope Paul VI, November 18, 1965. / From the Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity, *Apostolicam Actuositatem*, solemnly promulgated by Pope Paul VI, November 18, 1965.

Excerpt from *Magnificat Magazine*, Meditation of the Day, December 31, 2023



All generations shall call me blessed; because He who is powerful hath done great things to me.

Hoy es el último día del mes tradicionalmente dedicado a la Inmaculada Concepción. La

Santísima Virgen María, en el primer momento de su concepción, por singular privilegio de Dios Todopoderoso, y en vista de los méritos de Jesucristo, nuestro Salvador y suyo, fue preservada de toda mancha del pecado original. El 8 de diciembre celebramos la Solemnidad de la Inmaculada Concepción de la Santísima Virgen María.

Mañana, 1 de enero, daremos la bienvenida a un nuevo año al recordarnos también el nuevo nacimiento. Cada nuevo día con

Jesús es una oportunidad para pasar página de una vieja forma de vida y abrazar una nueva. Después de todo, somos personas de nueva creación y servimos al Rey de Reyes y Señor de Señores, quien nos renueva diariamente por el Espíritu Santo.

A medida que nos acercamos a enero, San Luis de Montfort ha destacado las 10 virtudes principales de María que debemos esforzarnos por imitar: su profunda humildad, su fe viva, su obediencia ciega, su oración incesante, su constante abnegación, su pureza incomparable y su amor ardiente. , paciencia heroica, bondad angelical y sabiduría celestial. (Verdadera Devoción a María, San Luis de Montfort #108) El 7 de enero, tenemos una oportunidad especial con María a través del Rosario de la Corona y Oraciones con los Franciscanos Seglares para reflexionar sobre las virtudes de María. Hemos sido bendecidos con muchas alegrías, incluida la oportunidad de este nuevo año de meditar sobre ellas con María, nuestra madre.

Oración de alabanza y honor a María atribuida a Francisco de Asís

Salve, Santísima Señora, Reina Santísima, María, Madre de Dios, siempre Virgen. Fuisteis elegidos por el Padre Altísimo que está en los cielos, consagrados por Él, con su Santísimo Hijo Amado y el Espíritu Santo, el Consolador.

Sobre ti descendió y aún permanece toda la plenitud de la gracia y de todo bien. Salve, su palacio. Salve Su Tabernáculo. ¡Salve su manto! Saluda a su sierva. Salve, su Madre. y Salve, santas Virtudes todas, que, por gracia e inspiración del Espíritu Santo, son derramadas en los corazones de los fieles para que, desde su estado de infidelidad, sean hechos fieles servidores de Dios por medio de vosotros

Fuente de oración: <https://aleteia.org/2021/10/04/st-francis-prayer-to-the-virgin-mary/>



Today is the last day of the month traditionally dedicated to the Immaculate Conception. The Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first moment of her conception, by a singular privilege of Almighty God, and in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, our Savior and hers, was preserved from all stain of original sin. On

Dec. 8, we celebrated the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Tomorrow, we will welcome a new year on January 1 as we are also reminded of the new birth. Each new day with Jesus is a chance to turn the page on an old way of life and embrace a new one. We are, after all, new creation people, and we serve the King of Kings & Lord of Lords who renews us daily by the Holy Spirit.

As we move in to January, St. Louis de Montfort has highlighted the 10 principal virtues of Mary that we should strive to imitate: her deep humility, lively faith, blind obedience, unceasing prayer, constant self-denial, surpassing purity, ardent love, heroic patience, angelic kindness, and heavenly wisdom. (True Devotion to Mary, St. Louis de Montfort #108) On January 7, we have a special opportunity with Mary through the Crown Rosary & Prayers with The Secular Franciscans to reflect on the virtues of Mary. We have been blessed with many joys including this new year opportunity to mediate on them with Mary our mother.

Prayer of Praise & Honor to Mary attributed to Francis of Assisi

Hail, holy Lady, most holy Queen,
Mary, Mother of God, ever Virgin.

You were chosen by the Most High Father in heaven,
consecrated by Him, with His most Holy Beloved Son
and the Holy Spirit, the Comforter.

On you descended and still remains all the fullness of grace and every good.

Hail, His Palace. Hail His Tabernacle.

Hail His Robe. Hail His Handmaid.

Hail, His Mother.

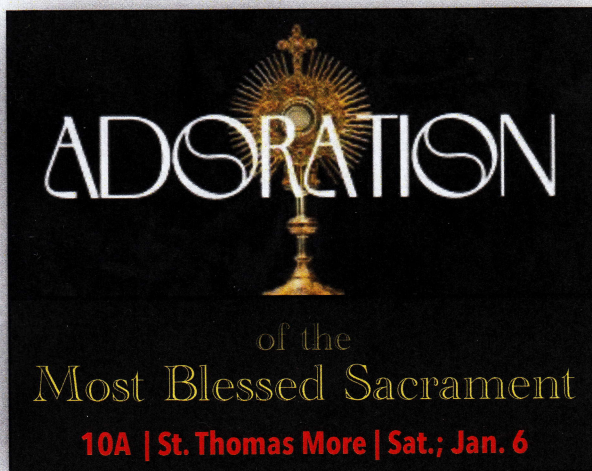
and Hail, all holy Virtues, who, by grace and inspiration of the Holy Spirit, are poured into the hearts of the faithful so that from their faithless state, they may be made faithful servants of God through you.

Prayer Source: <https://aleteia.org/2021/10/04/st-francis-prayer-to-the-virgin-mary/>

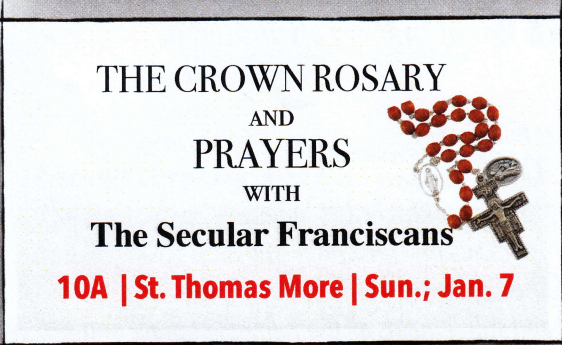
PARISH UPDATES



When we embrace our identity as children of God, and promise to follow Him, we are made anew. St. Thomas More, in addition to Mass, offers us very special ways to welcome 2024 with God. In January, the year is young & opportunities seem fresh. But as people of God, we know the fragility of human life; that every breath is a miracle, a gift given to us by our Creator who is to be adored and glorified by our lives.



- Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament on January 6 is a great time to spend with our Lord to renew the practice of adoring, praising, and renewing our trust in Him.
- The Crown Rosary & Prayers on January 7 with The Secular Franciscans offers us a unique devotion in a seven-decade rosary known as the Franciscan Crown, with each decade describing a particular joy from the life of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We have been blessed with many joys including this new year opportunity to mediate on them with Mary our mother.
- The Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wed., January 10, draws us closer to Jesus to appropriate the fresh grace that is ours in him. This is why confession always brings relief and joy. It is the gateway to greater intimacy with God.



Sacrament of Reconciliation



January 10, 2024 | 5p - 6p | STM

STM PARISH DIRECTORY IS COMING!

Yay!!! St. Thomas More is in the process of producing a new parish directory! Lori Mac Phail will head the team with Chris Pena handling all photography. Watch this space for sign-up dates and more information.

