

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
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

19MAR: Pancake Breakfast Today after Mass!
 20MAR: St. Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin ODS 830A
 21MAR: Holy Is His Name Tuesday Study Group STM 6p
 22MAR: Holy Is His Name Wednesday Study STM 10A
 24MAR: Estaciones de la Cruz STM 2pm
 24MAR: Soup Supper 5P / Stations of the Cross STM 6P
 25MAR: Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord
 28MAR: Grupo de Apoyo Paradise de Mujeres STM 10A

Sunday Readings

Fourth Sunday of Lent
IV Domingo de Cuaresma
1st Reading 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a
Psalm 23: 1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6
 The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
 El Señor es mi pastor, nada me faltará.
2nd Reading Ephesians 5:8-14
Gospel John 9:1-41

MEDITATION OF THE DAY

The Courage That Comes from Being Healed
The man born blind questioned Jesus, Who is he, Lord, that I may believe in him? Our Lord answered with supreme majesty, You
Meditation of the Day continues on next page

MARCH INTENTIONS of the HOLY FATHER

For victims of abuse
 We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.
Para víctimas de abuso
 Oramos por aquellos que han sufrido daño por parte de miembros de la Iglesia; que encuentren en la Iglesia misma una respuesta concreta a su dolor y sufrimiento.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR SUNDAY MARCH 19TH

Luz Tacandong †
 Gregorio Balladares †
 Robert Richards †

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR

Rainy Carr
 Ken Keesling
 Cothena L Brown
 Angela Babcock
 John Johnson
 Arianna Ospina
 Bruce Hasek
 Sharon Wilson



Maria Anoba
 Judi Moreno
 Kathy & Greg DeCristofaro
 Kimberly Helgeson Avoy
 Maria del Refugio Garcia
 Juan Alberto Dominguez
 Espinosa

Dan Hegenbart
 Victor Furrer
 Victoria Wilsey
 Richard Pesce
 Angela Coker
 Barbara Maldonado
 Sam Kempner
 Renee Kelly
 Samia Zumout

This Week's Readings

FOURTH WEEK OF LENT

Monday; March 20th Solemnity of St. Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

1st Reading: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16

Psalm 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29

The son of David will live for ever.

2nd Reading: Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22

Gospel: Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a

Tuesday; March 21st

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 22nd

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 23rd

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 24th

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 25th Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord

1st Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10

Psalm 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11

Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

2nd Reading: Hebrews 10:4-10

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

Meditation of the Day continued from front page.

MEDITATION OF THE DAY The Courage That Comes from Being Healed

have seen him and the one speaking with you is he. When our Lord pronounced this most majestic word, almost saying his name, I am, the man worshiped him. Life had become so simple, so very simple. It is never God who makes our lives complicated or morose or unhappy. It is we who do it by not realizing the grace of being forgiven, being freed to confess the truth about ourselves because we have been forgiven. A person who has been forgiven is a happy person, a person who is at ease.... Spiritually we still grieve for our sins and our faults, but we go forward when we are forgiven.

There is a legend, which is certainly deeply rooted in truth, that Saint Peter, having wept at cockcrow at the denials that were instigated by his weakness, wept so much throughout his life that he wept furrows into his cheeks. But Peter didn't just sit there and weep. He went out & preached and he taught. He was a pilgrim going from place to place & he suffered and he died. When we have real contrition, it is never inert. It is never something that in any way invites us to melancholy, much less to despair, but it begets in us a new intention to do and to suffer for Christ.

In the Gospel for Laetare Sunday, our Lord is giving us an actual happening and letting us take for ourselves a spiritual parable of our own blindness or sinfulness, which he heals. In being healed of blindness we find new courage. I think we can be confident that this blind beggar would in no way have spoken to those Pharisees like that if he hadn't been cured by the Lord. A great courage comes with being forgiven. Perhaps the man's parents were so frightened because they hadn't been forgiven enough, or hadn't been forgiven yet.... When we confess our sinfulness, we know that we have been forgiven. If we understand what sinfulness is, then we hurry forward. We weep in our hearts, but we do not sit down & weep. We are on the move. It will be wonderful in eternity to know just what this blind man did afterward. —MOTHER MARY FRANCIS OF OUR LADY, P.C.C.

Mother Mary Francis († 2006) was abbess of the Poor Clare Monastery of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Roswell, N.M. / From A Time of Renewal: Daily Reflections for the Lenten Season. © 2015, Ignatius Press, San Francisco, CA. www.ignatius.com.

Excerpt from Magnificat Magazine, Meditation of the Day, March 19, 2023

Weekly Reflection and Meditation

Week of March 19

Beatitude 7

During Father Martin's homily, Jan. 29, he focused on the Beatitudes and suggested that the people of St. Thomas More meditate on 1 of them each week until Easter. There are 9. With this in mind, the 7th Beatitude for meditation this week appears below.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

-Matthew 5:7



Marzo está tradicionalmente dedicado a San José. Debido a la solemnidad de San José el 20 de marzo, este mes está dedicado a este gran santo, el padre adoptivo de Cristo. "A los cristianos les corresponde en gran medida, mientras honran a la Virgen Madre de Dios, invocar constantemente con profunda piedad y confianza a su castísimo esposo, San José. Tenemos una convicción bien fundada de que tal es el deseo especial de la misma Santísima Virgen". --Papa León XIII



March is traditionally dedicated to St. Joseph (The solemnity of Saint Joseph is Monday March 20), this great saint, the foster father of Christ. "It greatly behooves Christians, while honoring the Virgin Mother of God, constantly to invoke with deep piety & 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

Sobre la Oración de Esta Semana

La oración de esta semana fue publicada en el Registro Nacional Católico como una de las ocho poderosas oraciones de San José. Esta oración tradicional pero poco conocida es la Oración de Confianza en San José. El tradicional dice así:

POR LA INTERCESIÓN DE SAN JOSÉ

Oh José, virgen-padre de Jesús, purísima esposa de la Virgen María, ruega todos los días por nosotros al mismo Jesús, Hijo de Dios, para que, defendidos por el poder de su gracia y luchando diligentemente en la vida, podamos ser coronado por Él en la hora de la muerte.

ORACIÓN PARA ESTA SEMANA: La Oración de Confianza en San José

Con confianza de niño me presento ante ti, ¡oh santo José, fiel padre adoptivo de Jesús! Ruego tu compasiva intercesión y apoyo en esta, mi presente necesidad. [Nombra tu petición.]
 Creo firmemente que eres el más poderoso cerca del trono de Dios, quien te eligió para ser el padre adoptivo de su amado hijo, Jesucristo. Oh bendito Santo, que salvaste aquel tesoro del cielo, con su madre virginal, de la furia de sus enemigos, que con incansable laboriosidad suplió sus necesidades terrenas y con paternal cuidado lo acompañó y protegió en todas las jornadas de su niñez, llévame también a mí, por el amor de Jesús, como tu hijo. Ayúdame en mi presente dificultad con tus oraciones ante Dios. La bondad infinita de nuestro salvador, que te amó y te honró como a su padre en la tierra, no puede negarte ninguna petición ahora en el cielo. Cuántas almas piadosas han buscado tu ayuda en sus necesidades y han experimentado, para su alegría, cuán bueno, cuán dispuesto estás a ayudar. ¡Con qué rapidez te vuelves a los que te invocan con confianza! ¡Cuán poderoso eres para traer ayuda y restaurar la alegría a los corazones ansiosos y abatidos! ¡Por eso vuelo a ti, oh dignísimo padre de Jesús, castísimo esposo de María! ¡Buen San José, te ruego por el amor ardiente que tuviste por Jesús y María en la tierra, consuélame en mi angustia y presenta mi petición, por Jesús y María, ante el trono de Dios! Una palabra tuya lo moverá a socorrer mi alma afligida. ¡Entonces con mayor alegría lo alabaré a él ya ti, y más ferviente será mi acción de gracias! Amén.

FUENTES <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/overviews/months/03.1.cfm>; https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_V,_Holy_Roman_Emperor
 Oración: <https://www.ncregister.com/blog/8-prayers-to-saint-joseph>

About the Prayer for This Week

The prayer for this week was published in the National Catholic Register as one of eight powerful prayers of St. Joseph. This traditional but little-known prayer is the Prayer of Confidence in St. Joseph. The traditional one goes like this:

FOR THE INTERCESSION OF SAINT JOSEPH

O Joseph, virgin-father of Jesus, most pure spouse of the Virgin Mary, pray every day for us to the same Jesus, the Son of God, that we, being defended by the power of His grace and striving dutifully in life, may be crowned by Him at the hour of death.

PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK: The Prayer of Confidence in St. Joseph

With childlike confidence I present myself before thee, O holy Joseph, faithful foster father of Jesus! I beg thy compassionate intercession and support in this, my present necessity. [Name your petition.]
 I firmly believe that thou art most powerful near the throne of God, who chose thee for the foster father of his well-beloved son, Jesus Christ. O blessed Saint, who saved that treasure of heaven, with his virginal mother, from the fury of his enemies, who with untiring industry supplied his earthly wants and with paternal care accompanied and protected him in all the journeys of his childhood, take me also, for the love of Jesus, as thy child. Assist me in my present difficulty with thy prayers before God. The infinite goodness of our savior, who loved and honored thee as his father upon earth, cannot refuse thee any request now in heaven. How many pious souls have sought help, from thee in their needs and have experienced, to their joy, how good, how ready thou art to assist. How quickly thou dost turn to those who call upon thee with confidence! How powerful thou art in bringing help and restoring joy to anxious and dejected hearts! Therefore, do I fly to thee, O most worthy father of Jesus, most chaste spouse of Mary! Good St. Joseph, I pray thee by the burning love thou hadst for Jesus and Mary upon earth, console me in my distress and present my petition, through Jesus and Mary, before the throne of God! One word from thee will move him to assist my afflicted soul. Then most joyfully shall I praise him and thee, and more earnest shall be my thanksgiving! Amen.

Sources: <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/overviews/months/03.1.cfm>; https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_V,_Holy_Roman_Emperor

Prayer: <https://www.ncregister.com/blog/8-prayers-to-saint-joseph>

PARISH UPDATES

HOLY IS HIS NAME GROUP STUDY IS STILL OPEN!

We've had an amazing response to Holy Is His Name, a Bible study, sponsored by STM, in 12 beautifully produced lessons by Scott Hahn. It's not too late to register! This study explores the Scriptural encounters with the Divine – the burning bush, the ark of the covenant, the burning coal, and much more! This is a study especially designed to help ordinary Catholics grow in knowledge of Scripture while deepening their understanding of the riches of faith.

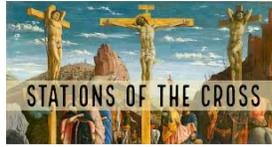
STM parishioners can choose between two 90-minute sessions.

1. **Tuesdays at 6p** (preceded by a potluck at 5:30p)
2. **Wednesdays at 10A** (will include light refreshments)

Questions? See Jim Collins or Deacon Mike Mangan.

KEY DATES THIS WEEK WITH OUR LORD & SAVIOR

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Monday; March 20	9A to 2P	EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
Tuesday; March 21	9A to 2P	EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
Wed.; March 22	9A to 2P	EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
Thursday; March 23	9A to 2P	EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
Friday; March 24	5P	Lenten Soup Supper
	6P	Stations of the Cross



HOLY WEEK

2023 Schedule

Palm Sunday | April 2 | Noon Mass

Holy Thursday | April 6 | to be advised

Good Friday | April 7 | to be advised

Easter Sunday | April 8 | Noon Mass



Rifa Annual a Hawaii de San Vincent de Paul

Gran Premio

6 Días/Noches en el Hotel & SPA Sheraton en Maui

Incluye tarifa aérea para dos personas, alquiler de un carro a través de la agencia Hertz y una tarjeta American Express con \$500

Los boletos estarán a la venta después de la Misa @ \$10.00 c/u

Todos los fondos obtenidos serán distribuidos directamente para beneficio de nuestro SVDP local.

El sorteo será el 28 de abril de 2023



Annual St. Vincent de Paul Hawaii Raffle Prize

6 Days/Nights at the Sheraton Hotel & Spa in Maui

Airfare for two

Hertz Car Rental

American Express \$500 gift card

Tickets \$10.00
On Sale After Mass

Funds raised go directly to our local St. Vincent de Paul

Drawing will be held Friday; April 28, 2023



Pancake Breakfast

The Knights of Columbus invite the St. Thomas More Parish Family to a delicious pancake breakfast today after Mass!



CARENET OF PARADISE DESPERATELY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

The Women of St. Thomas More support CareNet of Paradise and have learned from CareNet's Executive Director, Ashley Lundberg that the organization is in desperate need of volunteers to greet clients, handle light clerical, and other duties.

CareNet is an important resource for mothers with young children and mothers-to-be; many of whom are in crisis and some unsure whether or not to continue their pregnancy. CareNet serves both mothers and fathers on their walk through pregnancy & parenting. Questions? Talk to parishioners Madeline Riley or Kathy DiChristofaro after Mass. Or call CareNet during office hours at 530.876.1113. CareNet is located at 6585 Clark Road Suite 320 and open Mon. to Wed., 11A to 4P.