

# 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  
**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

03SEP: Crown Rosary 10A / Christian Prayer 1040A STM  
 03SEP: 2nd Collection: Building Fund STM  
 03SEP: Secular Franciscan Meeting STM After Mass  
 06SEP: Confession 5P / Summer Mass at STM 6P  
 09SEP: Women of STM Meeting STM 10A in narthex  
 10SEP: Ice Cream Social After Mass  
 12SEP: Grupo de Apoyo Paradise de Mujeres STM 10A

## Sunday Readings

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time  
 XXII Domingo Ordinario

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading** Jeremiah 20:7-9

**Psalms** 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.  
 Señor, mi alma tiene sed de ti.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** Romans 12:1-2

**Gospel** Matthew 16:21-27



## MEDITATION OF THE DAY

Thinking as God Does

*The cross has always been the symbol of God's will because it is the symbol of the most perfect obedience that ever existed. And so it is also the*

*Meditation of the Day continues on next page*

## SEPTEMBER INTENTIONS of the HOLY FATHER

**For people living on the margins**

*We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.*

**Para las personas que viven en los márgenes**

*Oramos por aquellas personas que viven al margen de la sociedad, en condiciones de vida inhumanas; que las instituciones no los pasen por alto y nunca los consideren de menor importancia.*

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>

Larry Campbell †

Prisciliana Nunez Bomactao †

Sam Weaver †

For the Health & Personal Intentions of Dan & Dana Hegenbart

In thanksgiving for Martin Rivera's birthday

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LET US PRAY FOR

Bill Kirby

Jose Raul Saavedra  
 (health)

Eduardo Dominguez Espinosa

Larry Penna

David Jorgenson

Rod Montgomery



Carrie Sue Sonsteng

Maria del Refugio Garcia

John Johnson

Bruce Hasek

Judi Moreno

Dan Hegenbart

Kathy & Greg DeCristofaro

Kimberly Helgeson Avoy

Sam Kempner

Renee Kelly

Samia Zumout

Sharon Wilson

Ken Keesling

Angela Babcock

The Wise Family

**This Week's Readings**

**TWENTY-SECOND WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME**

**Monday; September 4<sup>th</sup>**

1st Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18  
 Psalm 96:1 and 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13  
 The Lord comes to judge the earth.  
 Gospel: Luke 4:16-30

**Tuesday; September 5<sup>th</sup>**

1st Reading: 1 Thess 5:1-6, 9-11  
 Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14  
 I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.  
 Gospel: Luke 4:31-37

**Wednesday; September 6<sup>th</sup>**

1st Reading: Colossians 1:1-8  
 Psalm 52:10, 11  
 I trust in the mercy of God for ever.  
 Gospel: Luke 4:38-44

**Thursday; September 7<sup>th</sup>**

1st Reading: Colossians 1:9-14  
 Psalm 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6  
 The Lord has made known his salvation.  
 Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

**FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**Friday; September 8<sup>th</sup>**

1st Reading: Micah 5:1-4a  
 Psalm 13:6ab, 6c  
 With delight I rejoice in the Lord.  
 Gospel: Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23

**MEMORIAL OF SAINT PETER CLAVER, PRIEST**

**Saturday; September 9<sup>th</sup>**

1st Reading: Colossians 1:21-23  
 Psalm 54:3-4, 6 and 8  
 God himself is my help.  
 Gospel: Luke 6:1-5



*Meditation of the Day continued from front page.*

**MEDITATION OF THE DAY** Thinking As God Does

*symbol of the most perfect glorification of the Father, although outwardly it seemed such a failure. The cross is a mystery, and yet it is a still deeper mystery that it can be so intensely longed and prayed for by children of God, and so light to those who take it up. Yet our fallen nature is cowardly, easily afraid of suffering, and often tries to escape the cross. **Now, of course, strictly speaking, we cannot escape it:** God can always place it on our shoulders in the form of illness, failures, and so on. But he much prefers us to accept it willingly and even to desire it because it is the only means that makes us like Christ crucified and therefore, in time, like Christ glorified. And if we are brave in taking it up, it becomes a burden of love.*

**For many people, their cross is the fear of the cross:** a fear that is easily aroused and intensified by an undisciplined imagination. They think that as soon as they surrender themselves to God, he will immediately strike them down with some terrible disease or suffering. How little do they know their Father! ... We need to discipline our imagination and learn to live each day as it comes, remembering that God's will is infinitely wise, merciful, and tender, and that he unflinchingly gives us the grace we need to accept his will, but only at the exact moment we need it. Then we really live by faith, trust, and love. —FATHER BONAVENTURE PERQUIN, O.P.


*Father Perquin († 1970) was a Dominican priest, theologian, and spiritual writer. / From Abba, Father. © 2001 by Scepter Publishers, Inc., Strongsville, OH. www.scepterpublishers.org.*

*Excerpt from Magnificat Magazine, Meditation of the Day, September 3, 2023*

**Secular Franciscan Crown Rosary,  
 Christian Prayer & Meeting Today!**

Crown Rosary 10A | Christian Prayer 10:40A  
 Meeting after Mass

**Reminder for Wednesday Sept. 6:  
 Summer Mass at St. Thomas More - 6 p.m.**






**Septiembre está dedicado a los siete dolores de María, Nuestra Señora de los Dolores, cuya memoria la Iglesia celebra el 15 de septiembre.**

La devoción a los dolores de la Virgen María data del siglo XII, cuando esta devoción hizo su aparición en los círculos monásticos bajo la influencia de San Anselmo y San Bernardo. Los cistercienses y luego los servitas se comprometieron a propagarlo.

En el siglo XIV y especialmente en el XV se generalizó especialmente en Renania y Flandes, donde surgieron las Cofradías de la Madre Dolorosa. Fue en este contexto que se compusieron los primeros formularios litúrgicos en su honor. Un concilio provincial de Mainz en 1423 los utilizó para establecer una "Fiesta de los Dolores de María" en reparación por las profanaciones hechas de sus imágenes.

Extraído de *La Iglesia en oración*, vol. IV A.G. Martimort.

**Los Siete Dolores de La Virgen María**

la pena...

1. en la profecía de Simeón (Lucas 2:34-35);
2. en la huida a Egipto (Mateo 2:13-21);
3. habiendo perdido al Santo Niño en Jerusalén (Lucas 2:41-50);
4. encontrarse con Jesús en su camino al Calvario (Juan 19:17);
5. parado al pie de la Cruz (Juan 19:18-30);
6. Jesús siendo bajado de la Cruz (Juan 19:39-40);
7. en el entierro de Cristo (Juan 19:39-42).

**ORACIÓN DE ST. BUENAVENTURA**

Señora, que con tu dulzura cautivas los corazones de los hombres, ¿no has conquistado el mío? Oh violador de corazones, ¿cuándo me devolverás el mío? Gobierna y gobierna como si fuera tuyo; Consérvalo en la Sangre del Cordero y colócalo en el costado de tu Hijo. Entonces obtendré lo que deseo y poseeré lo que espero; porque tú eres nuestra esperanza. Amén.

FUENTES: [https://ollakes.org/monthly-devotions-2#:~:text=The%20month%20of%20September%20is,Anselm%20and%20St.%20Bernard.](https://ollakes.org/monthly-devotions-2#:~:text=The%20month%20of%20September%20is,Anselm%20and%20St.%20Bernard.https://www.newadvent.org/cathen/14151b.htm)  
<https://www.newadvent.org/cathen/14151b.htm> ; <https://www.goodcatholic.com/the-seven-sorrows-and-promises-of-our-lady-of-sorrows/>

Oración: <https://ollakes.org/monthly-devotions-2#:~:text=The%20month%20of%20September%20is,Anselm%20and%20St.%20Bernard>



**September is dedicated to the seven sorrows of Mary, Our Lady of Sorrows, whose memorial the Church celebrates on September 15.**

Devotion to the sorrows of the Virgin Mary dates from the 12th century, when this devotion made its appearance in monastic circles under the influence of St. Anselm and St. Bernard. The Cistercians and then the Servites undertook to propagate it. In

the 14th and especially the 15th centuries, it became widespread particularly in the Rhineland and Flanders where Confraternities of the Sorrowful Mother sprang up. It was in this context that the first liturgical formularies in her honor were composed. A provincial council of Mainz in 1423 made use of these in establishing a "Feast of the Sorrows of Mary" in reparation for Hussite profanations of her images.

Excerpted from *The Church at Prayer*, Vol. IV A.G. Martimort.

**The Seven Sorrows of The Virgin Mary**

the sorrow...

1. at the prophecy of Simeon (Luke 2:34-35);
2. at the flight into Egypt (Matthew 2:13-21);
3. having lost the Holy Child at Jerusalem (Luke 2:41-50);
4. meeting Jesus on his way to Calvary (John 19:17);
5. standing at the foot of the Cross (John 19:18-30);
6. Jesus being taken from the Cross (John 19:39-40);
7. at the burial of Christ (John 19:39-42).

**PRAYER OF ST. BONAVENTURE**

Lady, who by thy sweetness dost ravish the hearts of men, hast thou not ravished mine? O ravisher of hearts, when wilt thou restore me mine? Rule and govern it like thine own; preserve it in the Blood of the Lamb, and place it in thy Son's side. Then shall I obtain what I desire, and possess what I hope for; for thou art our hope. Amen.

SOURCES: [https://ollakes.org/monthly-devotions-2#:~:text=The%20month%20of%20September%20is,Anselm%20and%20St.%20Bernard.](https://ollakes.org/monthly-devotions-2#:~:text=The%20month%20of%20September%20is,Anselm%20and%20St.%20Bernard.https://www.newadvent.org/cathen/14151b.htm)  
<https://www.newadvent.org/cathen/14151b.htm> ; <https://www.goodcatholic.com/the-seven-sorrows-and-promises-of-our-lady-of-sorrows/>

PRAYER: <https://ollakes.org/monthly-devotions-2#:~:text=The%20month%20of%20September%20is,Anselm%20and%20St.%20Bernard>



## PARISH UPDATES

### ICE CREAM SOCIAL NEXT SUNDAY SEPT. 10! STM Will Celebrate World Day for Grandparents & Elderly

**St. Thomas More will celebrate Grandparents & the Elderly Ice Cream Social next Sunday Sept. 10th after Mass. In**

2021, Pope Francis established the celebration of the World Day for Grandparents & Elderly on the 4th Sunday of July, near the liturgical memorial of Saints Joachim & Anne, the grandparents of Jesus (July 26). The theme for 2023 selected by the pope is "His mercy is from age to age" (Lk 1:50). The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops moved the date to coincide with Grandparents Day celebrations in the U.S.



### THE WOMEN OF STM WILL MEET SATURDAY SEPT. 9 @ 10A

**The Women of STM will hold their first meeting of the 2023-24 calendar next Saturday, Sept. 9 in the STM church narthex.**



There's lots to discuss with the 3rd annual Taste of Heaven on Earth Wine & Chocolate Festival at the top of the list to be held Sat., Oct. 21.

All ladies of the parish are automatic members of The Women of St. Thomas More so all ladies of the parish are invited to attend! This is a fun group of ladies who love serving the Lord through parish support & community service. And we just plain enjoy being together. We'd love to have you join us. Come check us out! Bring a snack. Coffee and water provided.

### SECULAR FRANCISCANS GAMES DAY SEPT. 16

**Mark your calendar for a day of fun, fellowship, games and prizes at the annual Secular Franciscans Games Day, Saturday, Sept. 16. The fun starts at 10A and lasts until 2p here at St. Thomas More. A raffle will also be held. We look forward to seeing you!**



## 40 DAYS FOR LIFE Fall Campaign Needs Prayer Warriors

**The 40 Days for Life Fall 2023 Prayer campaign begins Sept. 27( and ends on November 5). We are looking for people willing to spend an hour in prayer. If you are willing, you'll be notified of the start of the prayer vigil a week or two before the Sept. 27 start date. Kathy DiChristofaro is preparing an info pamphlet that will be available soon as a bulletin insert.**

Your prayers and petitions have helped us make progress on the national level with the end of Roe v Wade. However, California is a state that allows abortion up to the moment of natural birth and encourages women from across the country to come here to abort their children. This is a great tragedy and a deep sin on our state.

If you are willing to be a prayer warrior during the 2023 40 Day for Life Fall Campaign watch the bulletin for more detail coming soon. Questions? See Kathy DiChristofaro.

### La campaña de otoño 40 días por la vida necesita guerreros de oración

**La campaña de 40 días por la vida Otoño 2023 comienza el 27 de septiembre (y finaliza el 5 de noviembre).**

Buscamos personas dispuestas a pasar una hora en oración. Si está dispuesto, se le notificará del inicio de la vigilia de oración una o dos semanas antes de la fecha de inicio del 27 de septiembre. Kathy DiChristofaro está preparando un folleto informativo que estará disponible pronto como inserto en el boletín.

Sus oraciones y peticiones nos han ayudado a lograr avances a nivel nacional con el fin de Roe v Wade. Sin embargo, California es un estado que permite el aborto hasta el momento del parto natural y alienta a mujeres de todo el país a venir aquí para abortar a sus hijos. Esta es una gran tragedia y un profundo pecado para nuestro estado.

Si está dispuesto a ser un guerrero de oración durante la campaña de otoño de 40 días por la vida de 2023, mire el boletín para ver un inserto con más detalles próximamente. ¿Preguntas? Véase Kathy DiChristofaro.

### BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS SATURDAY OCT. 7 AT 10A

**The Blessing of the Animals, sponsored by the SECULAR FRANCISCANS will be held SATURDAY, OCT. 7 AT 10A at STM. All pet parents please mark your calendars, wake up your sleepy pets, and bring them for a blessing!**

