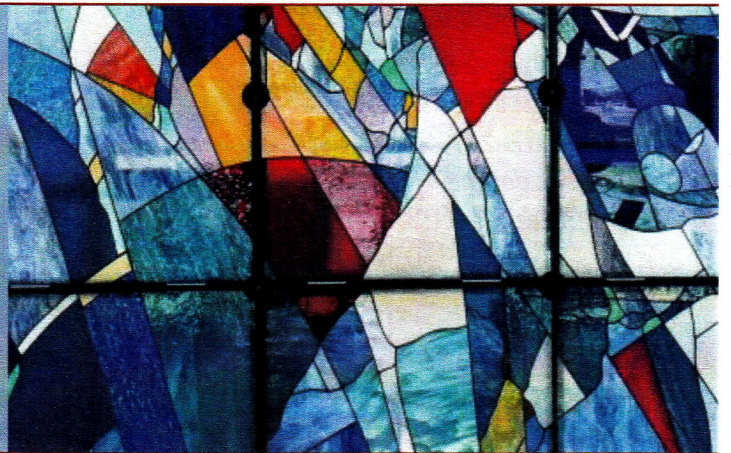


ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH



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

30AUG: Summer Mass at St. Thomas More 6P
02SEP: Adoration/Holy Hour STM 10A
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
12SEP: Grupo de Apoyo Paradise de Mujeres STM 10A

Sunday Readings

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time
XXI Domingo Ordinario
1st Reading Isaiah 56:1, 6-7
Psalms 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8
O God, let all the nations praise you!
Que te alaben. Señor, todos los pueblos.
2nd Reading Romans 11:13-15, 29-32
Gospel Matthew 15:21-28



MEDITATION OF THE DAY

“Who do you say that I am?”

When Jesus inquires concerning the opinion of people in general, he refers to himself obliquely as the Son of man. But when he asks his disciples the

Meditation of the Day continues on next page

AUGUST INTENTIONS of the HOLY FATHER

For World Youth Day

We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.

Para la Jornada Mundial de la Juventud

Oramos para que la Jornada Mundial de la Juventud en Lisboa ayude a los jóvenes a vivir y dar testimonio del Evangelio en sus propias vidas.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR SUNDAY AUGUST 27TH

*Maria de la Linn-Galan †
Intentions of Milagros Rivera for her birthday
Intentions of Maximina Leon
Intentions of Agapito Rivera*

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Bill Kirby †
Larry Penna
Carrie Sue Sonsteng
John Johnson
Maria del Refugio Garcia
Jose Raul Saavedra
David Jorgenson



LET US PRAY FOR

Sam Kempner
Renee Kelly
Samia Zumout
Sharon Wilson
Ken Keesling †
Angela Babcock
Rod Montgomery
Bruce Hasek
Judi Moreno
Dan Hegenbart
Kathy & Greg DeCristofaro
Kimberly Helgeson Avoy
Eduardo Dominguez Espinosa
The Wise Family

This Week's Readings

TWENTY-FIRST WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME

**MEMORIAL OF SAINT AUGUSTINE,
BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE
CHURCH**

Monday; Aug. 28th

1st Reading: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10

Psalm 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b

The Lord takes delight in his people.

Gospel: Matthew 23:13-22

**MEMORIAL OF THE PASSION OF
SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST**

Tuesday; August 29th
1st Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Psalm 139:1-3, 4-6

You have searched me & you know me, Lord.

Gospel: Mark 6:17-29

Wednesday; August 30th

1st Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

Psalm 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab

You have searched me and you know me, Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 23:27-32

Thursday; August 31st

1st Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:7-13

Psalm 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 and 17

Fill us with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy!

Gospel: Matthew 24:42-51

Friday; September 1st

1st Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

Psalm 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12

Rejoice in the Lord, you just!

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

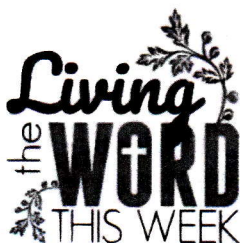
Saturday; September 2nd

1st Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:9-11

Psalm 98:1, 7-8, 9

The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30



Meditation of the Day continued from front page.

MEDITATION OF THE DAY "Who do you say that I am?"

question, what he says is, *Who do you say that I am?... As the focus shifts from people in general to the apostles themselves, Jesus' manner of referring to himself likewise shifts from a third-person objective title to the first-person intimate pronoun. It is as if he were saying: "I can understand it if people out there, outside my circle of familiarity, are mistaken in how they view me. But you who have lived with me day by day now for so long a while, you who have heard me speak and pray and teach and who have sat with me at table and witnessed my miracles and been with me through storms on the lake and the persecution of the Pharisees: Who do you say that I am?"*

The apostles have had ample opportunity to experience the rays of Jesus' inmost being shining upon their persons like the sun, in contrast to the multitude that have merely heard rumors about him or have projected their own expectations onto this itinerant rabbi. Therefore, Jesus' question to the disciples is not so much an official examination at the end of a period of scholastic training as it is a hopeful query by a Lover who needs to know to what extent he is known, understood, and accepted in his deepest identity by those he loves, those to whom he has been at pains to manifest himself.

To the happy (and indifferent) eclecticism of "John the Baptist, Elijah, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets," Jesus reacts by saying to those sitting by him: "But you, my dear friends: you who know the contour of my face and the sound of my voice and the smell of my skin and hair.... Could you pick me out in the confusion of a dark room full of prophets as your (and God's!) one and only Beloved? Am I present to you as the total person that I am? It is, after all, to reveal the Father that I came, and you can know the Father only if you know who I am!" —ERASMO LEIVA-MERIKAKIS

Erasmus Leiva-Merikakis, now known as Father Simeon, is a Trappist monk. He is the author of *Fire of Mercy, Heart of the Word*, a four-volume commentary on Matthew's Gospel. / From *Fire of Mercy, Heart of the Word: Meditations on the Gospel According to Saint Matthew, Volume Two (Chapters 12-18)*. © 2003. Ignatius Press, San Francisco, CA. www.ignatius.com.

Excerpt from *Magnificat Magazine*, *Meditation of the Day*, August 27, 2023

SUMMER REMINDER!

Secular Franciscan Crown Rosary,
Christian Prayer & Meeting

See you Sunday, Sept. 3

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

La devoción de agosto está tradicionalmente dedicada al

Inmaculado Corazón de María. El corazón físico de María es venerado (y no adorado como el Sagrado Corazón de Jesús) porque está unido a su persona y es sede de su amor (especialmente por su divino Hijo), virtud y vida interior. Tal devoción es un incentivo para un amor y una virtud similares. El martes 15 de agosto celebramos la Solemnidad de la

Asunción de la Santísima Virgen María, seguida por el Reinado de la Santísima Virgen María el pasado martes 22 de agosto.

Reparación al Inmaculado Corazón

Nuestra misma consagración al Inmaculado Corazón de María nos llama a reparar las ofensas que nosotros y otros hemos cometido contra ella. La Iglesia, al invitarnos a consagrarnos a su Inmaculado Corazón, implícitamente nos llama a esta reparación. Pero más explícitamente, y aún antes de Fátima, San Pío X ofreció una indulgencia plenaria a todos los que el primer sábado de mes observaran devociones especiales en honor a la Virgen Inmaculada en un espíritu de reparación por las blasfemias proferidas contra ella. Hay, sin embargo, una razón aún más fundamental por la que cada uno de nosotros debe reparación al Inmaculado Corazón de María: cada pecado nuestro le causó dolor y sufrimiento en unión con su divino Hijo. Porque el pecado fue la causa de aquel día terrible en el Calvario, cuando ella, como la Nueva Eva, compartió el tormento del gran sacrificio y, en medio de un dolor indescriptible, dio a luz espiritualmente a todos los miembros del Cuerpo Místico de su divino Hijo. Dios quiso que María estuviera íntimamente asociada con su Hijo al llevar la carga de todo pecado; seguramente entonces, su Inmaculado Corazón, en unión con Su divino Corazón, debe recibir reparación de parte de nosotros que les hemos causado tanto dolor. Si alguien causa daño incluso a un ser humano muy común, no pasa por alto la necesidad de repararlo. ¡Cuánto más debemos a los Corazones de Jesús y de María!

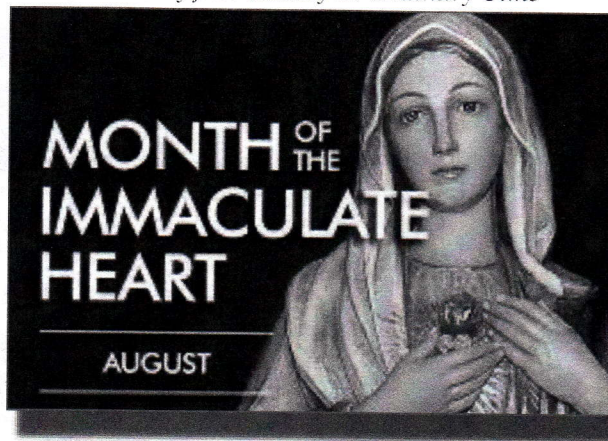
Extraído de María en nuestra vida, p. William G. Most

Oración al Inmaculado Corazón

Oh María, Virgen poderosísima y Madre de misericordia, Reina del Cielo y Refugio de los pecadores, nos consagramos a tu Inmaculado Corazón.

Te consagramos nuestro mismo ser y toda nuestra vida; todo lo que tenemos, todo lo que amamos, todo lo que somos.

Devoción de agosto continúa en la última página.



August devotion is traditionally dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of

Mary. The physical heart of Mary is venerated (and not adored as the Sacred Heart of Jesus is) because it is united to her person and is the seat of her love (especially for her divine Son), virtue, and inner life. Such devotion is an incentive to a similar love & virtue.

On Tuesday, Aug. 15, we celebrated the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, followed by the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary last Tuesday, Aug. 22.

Reparation to the Immaculate Heart

Our very consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary calls upon us to make reparation for the offenses that we and others have committed against her. The Church, in inviting us to consecrate ourselves to her Immaculate Heart, implicitly calls upon us for this reparation. But more explicitly, and even before Fatima, Saint Pius X offered a plenary indulgence to all who on the first Saturday of the month would observe special devotions in honor of the Immaculate Virgin in a spirit of reparation for the blasphemies uttered against her.

There is, however, an even more basic reason why each one of us owes reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary: every sin of ours caused grief and suffering to her in union with her divine Son. For sin was the cause of that terrible day on Calvary when she, as the New Eve, shared in the torment of the great sacrifice, and, amidst indescribable pain, brought forth spiritually all the members of the Mystical Body of her divine Son. God willed that Mary should be intimately associated with His Son in bearing the burden of all sin; surely then, her Immaculate Heart, in union with His divine Heart, should receive reparation from us who have caused them such pain. If anyone causes hurt to even a very ordinary human being, he does not overlook the need to make amends. How much more do we owe to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary!

Excerpted from Mary In Our Life, Fr. William G. Most

A Prayer to the Immaculate Heart

O Mary, Virgin most powerful and Mother of mercy, Queen of Heaven and Refuge of sinners, we consecrate ourselves to thine Immaculate Heart.

We consecrate to thee our very being and our whole life; all that we have, all that we love, all that we are.

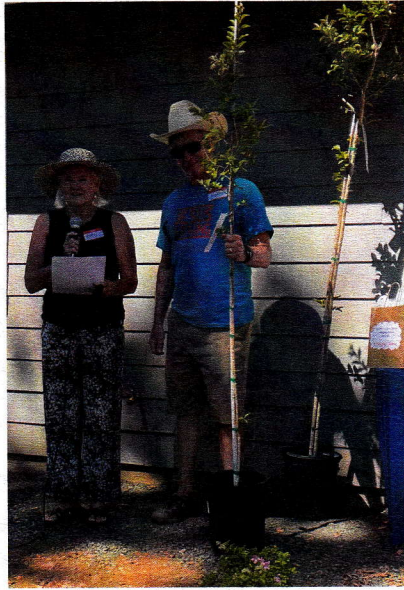
August Devotion continued on back page.



PARISH UPDATES

STM Welcome Home to the Ridge Has Trees!

The Welcome Home to the Ridge Program has trees available to present to new homeowners. It's fun, rewarding, and pleasing to God to give. And homeowners love it! If you are aware of new homeowners in the Paradise/Magalia area please consider grabbing a friend or 2, getting a tree & gifting it. Stop by the church office with the homeowner's address. We keep track of the addresses to prevent duplicate gifts.



Lori MacPhail, Chris Rehmann of STM

We also keep a list of eligible homeowners & addresses in the church office. It would be a great blessing if you stop by to get one of those addresses and deliver a tree. "And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased." Hebrews 13:16

Questions? See Chris Rehmann or Lori MacPhail.

ICE CREAM COMING SOON! STM Will Celebrate World Day for Grandparents & Elderly Sunday; Sept. 10th!

St. Thomas More will celebrate Grandparents & the Elderly Ice Cream Social on 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).



Devoción de agosto continúa de la página 3.

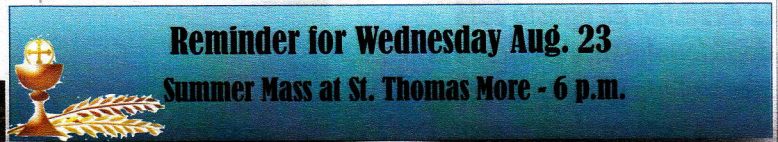
Devoción de Agosto: Consagración al Inmaculado Corazón

Oración al Inmaculado Corazón

A ti te entregamos nuestros cuerpos, nuestros corazones y nuestras almas; a ti te entregamos nuestros hogares, nuestras familias, nuestro país. Deseamos que todo lo que hay en nosotros y alrededor de nosotros te pertenezca y participe de los beneficios de tu bendición maternal. Y para que este acto de consagración sea verdaderamente eficaz y duradero, renovamos este día a tus pies las promesas de nuestro Bautismo y nuestra Primera Comunión.

Nos comprometemos a profesar con valentía y en todo momento las verdades de nuestra santa Fe, ya vivir como corresponde a los católicos debidamente sumisos a todas las indicaciones del Papa y de los Obispos en comunión con él. Nos comprometemos a guardar los mandamientos de Dios y de Su Iglesia, en particular a santificar el Día del Señor. Asimismo, nos comprometemos a hacer de las prácticas consoladoras de la religión cristiana y, sobre todo, de la Sagrada Comunión, parte integrante de nuestra vida, en la medida de nuestras posibilidades.

Finalmente, te prometemos, oh gloriosa Madre de Dios y amorosa Madre de los hombres, dedicarnos de todo corazón al servicio de tu bendito culto, para apresurar y asegurar, por la soberanía de tu Inmaculado Corazón, la venida del reino del Sagrado Corazón de tu adorable Hijo, en nuestro propio corazón y en el de todos los hombres, en nuestra patria y en todo el mundo, como en el cielo. así en la tierra.



August Devotion continued from page 3.

August Devotion: Consecration to the Immaculate Heart A Prayer to the Immaculate Heart

To thee we give our bodies, our hearts and our souls; to thee we give our homes, our families, our country. We desire that all that is in us and around us may belong to thee, and may share in the benefits of thy motherly benediction. And that this act of consecration may be truly efficacious and lasting, we renew this day at thy feet the promises of our Baptism and our first Holy Communion.

We pledge ourselves to profess courageously and at all times the truths of our holy Faith, and to live as befits Catholics who are duly submissive to all the directions of the Pope and the Bishops in communion with him. We pledge ourselves to keep the commandments of God and His Church, in particular to keep holy the Lord's Day. We likewise pledge ourselves to make the consoling practices of the Christian religion, and above all, Holy Communion, an integral part of our lives, in so far as we shall be able so to do.

Finally, we promise thee, O glorious Mother of God and loving Mother of men, to devote ourselves whole-heartedly to the service of thy blessed cult, in order to hasten and assure, through the sovereignty of thine Immaculate Heart, the coming of the kingdom of the Sacred Heart of thine adorable Son, in our own hearts and in those of all men, in our country and in all the world, as in heaven. so on earth.

<https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/devotions/a-prayer-to-the-immaculate-heart-12764#>



LET US PRAY FOR

Sofia Garcia	David Moreno
Jose R. Saavedra	Sharon Wilson
Barbara Collins	Barbara Maldonado
Larry Penna	Dan Hegenbart
David Jorgenson	Kathy & Greg DeCristofaro
Rod Montgomery	Angela Babcock
Kimberly Helgeson Avoy	Sam Kempner
The Wise Family	Samia Zumout
Renee Kelly	Bruce Hasek
Carrie Sue Sonsteng	Judi Moreno
Mary Helgeson Dentino & Chloe	John Johnson

FUNERAL MASS for Sam Weaver

Viewing & Rosary at Newton Bracewell Funeral Home, Paradise

Tuesday, August 29 6 – 8pm

Funeral Mass at St. Thomas More Church

Wednesday, August 30 11am.