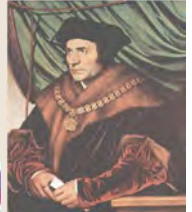




SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PARISH

51 MARKETPLACE IRVINE, CA 92602 · 949-551-8601 · WWW.STMIRVINE.ORG



Saint Thomas More Welcomes All

Welcoming all, we, the Spirit-filled parish of St. Thomas More, value our Roman Catholic faith by celebrating the sacraments, breaking open the Scriptures, and joyfully offering ourselves in service to others. Under the inspiration of our patron saint, we seek to build a caring community that embraces the values he modeled of friendship, integrity and courageous love of God.

Pastor

Parochial Vicar
Parochial Vicar Emeritus
Weekend Assistants

Deacons

Rev. John E. Janze

Rev. Kiet Ta
Rev. William Krekelberg
Rev. Joseph Horn, O Praem
Rev. Joseph Justice
Deacon Tony & Mrs. Mary Patronite
Deacon Stan & Mrs. Fran Necikowski
Deacon Tin & Mrs. UyenLan Nguyen
Deacon Leonard & Mrs. Nancy Sun
Deacon John & Mrs. Michelle Selig

Office Information:

Office: 949-551-8601
After hours emergency: 949-228-2127
Fax: 949-551-5879
Religious Education: 949-551-8029
Youth Ministry: 949-551-8602

Office Hours by Phone:

**The parish office is closed to the public, and answering the phones during the following times:
Monday-Saturday: 9:00am-2:00pm**

SECOND SUNDAY OF

Lent

From the cloud
came a voice:
"This is my beloved Son.
Listen to him."

Mark 9:7



FEBRUARY
28
2021

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Daily Mass:
Monday – Saturday
 8:00 AM

Vigil Mass Times
 4:00 PM Vietnamese/English
 6:00 PM English

Sunday Mass Times
 8:00 AM English
 10:00 AM English
 12:00 PM Spanish/English
 5:00 PM English

Morning Prayer: Wed & Fri 7:30am to 7:50am

Adoration: Every Friday 9:00am to 10:00am

Saturday "Drive-Up" Confessions:
 12:00pm to 2:00pm

We will continue to livestream all Masses
For spiritual advisement, please contact the
priest to schedule an appointment.



MASS INTENTIONS

Please call the front desk to request a Mass Intention

Tuesday 3/2	8:00am	Shirley Gregory
Wednesday 3/3	8:00am	†Cleofe Satur Antipolo
Thursday 3/4	8:00am	Mary Nguyen
Friday 3/5	8:00am	†Frank Pratt
Saturday 3/6	8:00am	Baby Johanna Harris
	8:00am	†Carmen Manahan
	8:00am	†Miguel Vaca
	8:00am	Tiffany Garbis
	8:00am	†Val P. Reitz
	8:00am	†Serafin Arceo
	8:00am	Beata Durdovic
	4:00pm	†Rosario Izquierdo
	6:00pm	†Virginia & Antone Machado
Sunday 3/7	8:00am	†Richard Robertson, Sr.
	10:00am	Kristina Williams
	12:00pm	Esther Dionisio
	5:00pm	Pro Populo

Welcome! We are glad you are here.

- ◆ Masses have moved indoors with a maximum occupancy of 25% or approx. 200 people. This includes Adoration, Stations of the Cross, weddings, baptisms and funerals.
- ◆ The patio will be available for any overflow. Please bring your own chair.
- ◆ The church will not be open for individual prayer, however, the Blessed Sacrament Chapel will be open for individual prayer Monday – Friday from 7:00 am to 2:00 pm.
- ◆ In-person gatherings of prayer groups, Bible studies, ministry meetings, etc. are still not allowed.
- ◆ Face coverings must be worn.
- ◆ Please maintain physical distancing.
- ◆ Our Bishop's special dispensation still applies. If you are over 65, or if you have an underlying health condition, or if you are truly afraid of catching the virus, you are not obligated, but you are always welcome to attend Mass in person. If you think you are sick, especially if you think you may have COVID-19 or have been exposed to someone who tested positive, please join us via livestream.
- ◆ We ask for your cooperation and patience as we navigate the directives in response to the pandemic. Even during these challenging times, we continue to worship our Lord as a faith-filled community.
- ◆ Please check our website and social media for updates.

FACTS ABOUT THE COVID-19 VACCINE

Last weekend there was a statement made in error regarding vaccines and not wearing a mask. It is important to note that vaccination does not make a person 100% immune or prevent that person from being a carrier and infecting others.

It is important to wear a mask at all times while at St. Thomas More, regardless of if you received the COVID-19 Vaccine or if you tested positive for COVID-19 in the past.

Learn more at www.cdc.gov



My Dear People,

Today's theme on the Readings HISTORY OF SALVATION

The first reading today continues the "history of salvation" narrative that we hear throughout Lent this year. Today's story was among the best-loved in the Jewish tradition (surely Joseph told the story to young Jesus as he formed him in the ways of their faith); the early fathers of the Church were very fond of it as a means of explaining the sacrifice of Christ on the cross. The overall tone of the first reading, psalm, and second reading seems a little incongruous with the dazzling Gospel, until we remember that the Transfiguration was placed as the Gospel for this Sunday precisely to remind us of the glory that awaits those who live faithfully and obediently to the will of God. In the life of Jesus, it is a preview of the glory of his resurrection; for us it is a glimpse of the destiny of those who continue, as we heard in last week's Gospel, to repent and believe in the Good News.

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In Christ,
Father John

Collections and Expenses

2-15-2021 to 2-21-21

	Collection	E-Giving	Total
Sunday Collection	\$10,470	\$14,449	\$24,920
Believe & Grow	\$350	\$2,272	\$2,622
BGT- Phase 2	\$978	\$2,208	\$3,186
Building Fund	\$203	\$176	\$379
Total	\$785	\$560	\$1,345

Regular Expenses	\$2,415
------------------	---------

We appreciate your continued financial support of the parish during these challenging times. If you would like to give, please click on the e-giving link in the top corner of the STM website to set up or update your e-giving. If you have questions, please call the office. All donations to the *Believe & Grow Together Campaign* will be used exclusively to pay for the construction costs to build the new Parish church. Moreover, Building Fund donations can be used to pay for the construction costs to build the new Parish church and for the maintenance and repairs of the existing Parish buildings and property. **Thank you for your generosity!**

I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living
-Psalm 116

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Dn 9:4b-10; Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20; Ps 31:5-6, 14-16; Mt 20:17-28
Thursday: Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 16:19-31
Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Ps 105:16-21; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 103:1-4, 9-12; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Sunday: Ex 20:1-17 [1-3, 7-8, 12-17]; Ps 19:8-11; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25
Alternate readings (Year A): Ex 17:3-7; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith (Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18).

Psalm — I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living (Psalm 116).

Second Reading — If God is for us, who can be against us? (Romans 8:31b-34).

Gospel — Jesus was transfigured before them, and his clothes

became dazzling white (Mark 9:2-10).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.



PLEASE PRAY FOR HEALING



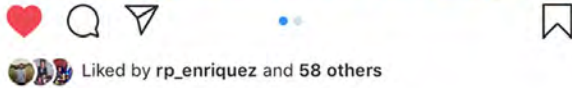
- | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Sally Acosta | Baby Johanna Harris | Ramon Navarro, Jr. |
| Stacey Allen | Mike Harvey | Benjamin Nicanor |
| Richy Altuna | Shirley Hecker | Karen Norton |
| Mary Amato | John Heffernan | Nam Van Nguyen |
| Mike Anderson | Robert Henry | Thuy-Lieu Nguyen |
| Renee Andrade | Annette Hills | Kyle Osbourne |
| Judy Anselmo | Margaret Hills | Agnes Pamintuan |
| Alicia Arrellano | Clara Honea | Dcn Tony & Mary Patronite |
| Sam Baniqued | Dominador Hontucan | Regina Park |
| Zicky Baniqued | Sue House | Norma Jeanne Parrish |
| Jesus Barragan | Linda Hughes | Mary Jane Parsons |
| Blanca Bermudez | Angela Jack | Gabby Paz |
| Maria Botello | Elsa Jatwani | Charlie Perrea |
| Michele Bradley | Theresa Johnston | Ngocle Phung |
| Bill Burk | Sharon Jones | Frank Quevedo |
| Lisa Busch | Doris Jordan | Zachary Quick |
| Mary & Joe Bush | Quinn Kelly | Norma Quyang |
| Baby Zane Cabazon | Jim Kendall | Fr. Jim Reis |
| Linda Carter | Houman Khaghani | Paula Reno |
| Ellen Chang | Jett Knight | Lorraine Reyes |
| Cyrus Charna | Ty Vivian Knisely | Ponciano Reyes |
| Marietta Charbonneau | Elizabeth Kulas | Robert Arnold Rull |
| Hui-Mei Chen | Richard Kulas | Sheila Russo |
| Clara Connor | Deborah Kurilchyk | Terry Rute |
| Alexandra Conti | Larry Lathrum | Anita Ruwaldt |
| Petra Cordova | Damian Ledesma | Jackson & Gerri |
| Ellie Dainko | Todd Leeds | Scharff |
| Jim Danaher | Jack Light | Michelle Suh |
| Rick Denham | Minerva Lopez | Tara Summers |
| Diana & Liberato DeVeyra | Aida Lopez-Tan | Liz Thomas |
| Larry Doan | Cari Maas | Gail Tierney |
| Chela Echenique | Gloria MacCormack | Maria To |
| Meynard Encarnacion | Betty Mackintosh | Xuan Tran |
| Jacob Espinoza | Mercedes Mantilla | Denise Trujillo |
| Howard Frankel, MD | Cherry Marinas | Jack Troung |
| John Frisch | Cavan McGaffney | Kimberly Truong |
| Cynthia Fox | Kathleen McKinley | David Valentine |
| Claudia Fuentes | Anne McNally | Daniel Villareal |
| Mike Garibay | Connie Mellott | Jim Vessey |
| Lillian Gibson | Durvalina Menezes | Hanh Vu |
| Jose Gonzales, Jr. | Stephanie Mispagel | Alicia Walters |
| Marisela Gonzalez | Linda Moore | John Weber |
| Lois Gorman | Agnes Motley | Bill Westlund |
| Alice Green | Marie Moya | Mike Winchester |
| Emma Hager | Susan Navarrete | Jim Wood |
| Tina Halberg | | Linda Yipp |

Please call the office when it is time to remove a name.



LIFE TEEN
St. Thomas More Catholic Church

stmirvineym.org

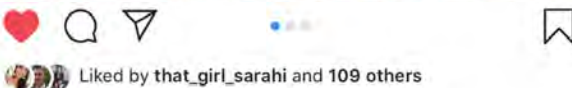


Liked by rp_enriquez and 58 others

Bible Studies will continue to meet on Mondays at 7pm. If you would like to attend the bible studies, please email confirmation@stmirvine.org and we will send you the ZOOM Link.

Core Team meetings will begin in February. Thank you to all the core team who have continued to minister to teens throughout the pandemic.

Virtual Life Nights will return late February. A big thank you to all the teens who have participated in the last few months.



Liked by that_girl_sarahi and 109 others

Confirmation Classes continues to take place online. We are no longer accepting registrations for classes..

Confirmation 1 Classes Dates Are

- Wednesday, February 3 at 7pm
- Wednesday, February 24 at 7pm
- Wednesday, March 10 at 7pm

Confirmation 2 Classes Dates Are

- Wednesday, February 10 at 7pm
- Wednesday, March 3 at 7pm
- Wednesday, March 17 at 7pm

R.E.P. CORNER



During Lent, we invite our 3rd-8th Grade REP classes and their families for Drive Up/Walk Up Reconciliation on Saturdays from 12:00-2:00 PM. Call the REP Office for more information.



WANDERLIGHT



We have some really exciting news! Wanderlight-A Pilgrim's Adventure is a brand new Catholic video game for

all of our students! After some technical glitches, we FINALLY were able to get this exciting new game out to all of our families. We are looking forward to the amazing journey of all of our young pilgrims!

Contact the REP Office with any questions or if you have not yet received your student's log-in information.



For any questions, call the REP office at (949) 551-8029.

The Library Corner

Second Sunday of Lent

The St. Thomas More Parish Library staff would like to wish all our parishioners a Happy Second Sunday of Lent. The Library will be closed until further notice.

The gospel of St. Mark tells us about the vision of Christ glorified, given to these apostles on Mount Tabor, the power and majesty of our Lord Jesus Christ. This action was an enlightening glimpse of Christ's future glory. During this Lenten season, as Catholics, we should be humbling ourselves which can earn us a glorious and unending future life.

As God stated from heaven,
"this is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased."



LENTEN SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITY

This Lent, we invite you to journey with us and with Dr. Tim Gray by signing up for FREE Daily Lenten Reflections.

Each day you will receive in your inbox a short video featuring Dr. Gray commenting on the daily Mass readings, explaining the Scriptures, and providing you with concrete ideas on how to apply them to your Christian life.

To sign up, just visit:

FORMED.ORG/LENT

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday during Lent
7:00pm to 8:00pm

Stations will be held in the church and livestreamed

The Blessed Sacrament Chapel

**open for individual, private prayer
Monday - Friday
7:00am to 2:00pm**

**If God is for us,
who can be against us?**

— Romans 8:31b

Lenten donation boxes available after Mass or in the parish office lobby

*“Drive-up”
Lenten
Confessions*

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*Please be advised: All funds raised from this campaign will be applied to Y11. However, should this function no longer be viable for any reason – including a force majeure or act of God incident – or should any funds remain after the function has been paid for in full, then the balance of the fundraised money shall be transferred to the Parish's general operating fund to be used at the discretion of the Parish to further its mission.



FEAST OF FAITH The Opening Prayer

At the conclusion of the Introductory Rites of the Mass, the presider says or chants the words "Let us pray," followed by the Opening Prayer. This prayer is also called a "collect" because it gathers or "collects" the prayers of the entire assembly into one. The Roman collects that we pray in our liturgy—noted for the brevity, clarity, and conciseness of the Latin originals—date from a variety of periods. Some are quite new; others reach back more than a thousand years. They are truly treasures of our tradition.

The Opening Prayer can be divided into four main parts: 1) the invitation, or "Let us pray"; 2) the silence that follows, during which each member of the assembly lifts up before God his or her own prayers; 3) the collect itself, spoken or sung by the priest; 4) and finally the Amen, by which the assembly says, "yes," "may it be so," making the prayer their own.

The collect itself almost always follows the same pattern. It begins with an invocation to God. A petition follows, usually very general. We ask for health, strength, wisdom, grace, forgiveness, faith, awareness. Every collect concludes by offering the prayer to God through Jesus Christ. With the Amen of the assembly, the Introductory Rites of the Mass come to an end.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

I will
make
your
descendants
as countless
as the
stars
of the sky



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As Jesus fasted for 40 days in the desert, the Church traditionally fasts during Lent. A form of bodily prayer, fasting and abstinence in union with other Christians reminds us of our utter dependence on and love for God. A gesture of repentance, fasting is symbolic of a change of heart as we turn away from sin to live in fidelity to the Gospel.

Lenten Regulations:

Fasting: Ages 18-59 fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, limiting themselves to one full meal and two smaller meals each day, with no snacking between meals.

Abstinence: Catholics age 14 and older abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent.

*Old palms can be
dropped off in the
box in the parish
office lobby.*





To view upcoming dates, times, and to register, visit OrangeCatholicFoundation.org/estate-planning

saint snippets

March 3

Press forward and fear nothing.

St. Katharine Drexel
She gave up an inheritance of \$7 million to enter religious life and then created a system of Catholic schools for African-Americans

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SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Second Sunday of Lent; Penitential Rite for Candidates for Full Communion
 Wednesday: St. Katharine Drexel
 Thursday: St. Casimir
 Friday: First Friday; World Day of Prayer; Abstinence
 Saturday: First Saturday



Ways to Give to STM:



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Thank you for your continued support!

The Sacred Heart Sisters are giving a **Virtual Lent Retreat for Adults**

“By His wounds, we are healed.” 1Pt 2:24

Friday, March 12th 6 pm – 8:30pm Or Saturday, March 13th 10am – 12:30pm

Sign up now – registration is online.

<https://sacredheartretreatcamp.com/lent-retreat/>

Call 714-557-4538 with questions.

A freewill donation is greatly appreciated.



We apologize for the recent delay of bulletins. They are currently printed in Chicago and due to weather, they have been delayed.

Get the bulletin emailed to you each week!

Sign up at: ebulletin.jspaluch.com

or follow the bulletin link on stmirvine.org





A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP TIMOTHY FREYER

Please join me in praying for the safety and well-being of everyone affected by the recent winter storms. Let us ask the Lord to care for the homeless, those without power, heat, and running water. In gratitude we pray for the protection of first responders, emergency workers and all those helping during these trying times. May those who are ill receive healing and comfort. During this time of Lenten almsgiving may we be generous in caring for all who are suffering.



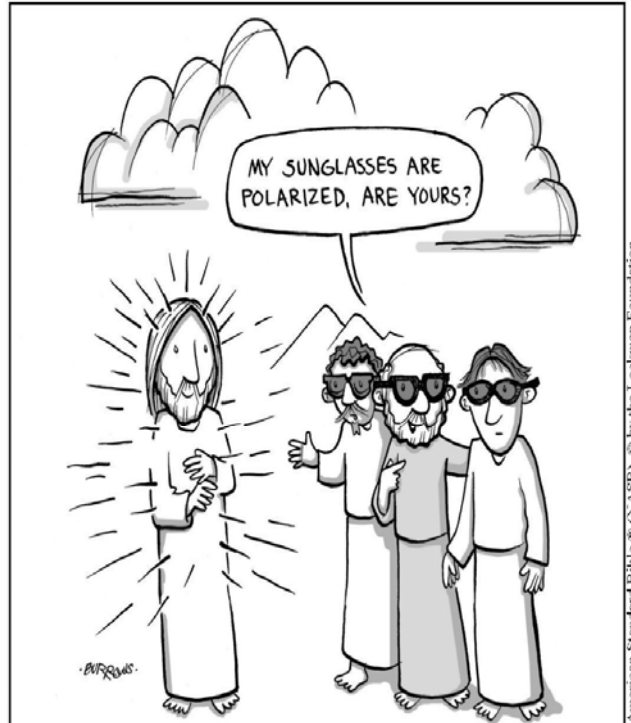
ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF ORANGE



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The Little Ones

Jim Burrows



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Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and brought them up on a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; and his garments became radiant and exceedingly white, as no launderer on earth can whiten them. Mark 9:2-3

Scripture from the New American Standard Bible (NASB), © by the Lockman Foundation. Used by permission. www.Lockman.org

Think about how much God loves us.
Even God's own Son was not spared for love of us.
Have someone read this big banner to you.
Then fold it as directed to make a small one.
It will tell you something that you should always remember.

God is

always ready to
listen to you!

(Fold Up↑)

God's word is full of
true promises.

(Fold Down↓)

for us!



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Second Sunday of Lent

Abraham obeyed God's commands.
Because of this God promised to bless him.
God also promised something to Abraham's family.
Find out what they would become by underlining the words written above numbers between 500 and 1000.
Then read the underlined words in order.
If you need help, you can read Genesis 22:17 in your Bible.

as 792	farmers 324	rich 1002	countless 996	happy 476
as 583	the 618	very 441	because 212	stars 999
of 512	the 836	wealthy 138	sky 722	and 843
popular 1506	the 932	smart 300	clever 1052	sands 955
of 652	friendly 93	the 701	seashore 550	not 408

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FEBRUARY 28, 2021

*Jesus was transfigured
before them, and his clothes
became dazzling white.*

Mark 9:2-3

THE BELOVED SON

Today's first reading, known as "the Binding of Isaac," refers to the way Isaac is bound and laid upon the wood of the altar of sacrifice. God directs Abraham to offer his son in sacrifice, killing the beloved son that had been a special gift to him and Sarah in their old age. How could God ask Abraham to do such a thing? Abraham offers no resistance, but in preparing for the sacrifice, Abraham may have agreed with the psalmist that he was "greatly afflicted." Saint Paul's letter to the Romans refers to Jesus as God's beloved Son, which is also how God identifies Jesus to Peter, James, and John at the Transfiguration. Afterward, Jesus tells those disciples not to mention the event to anyone until after his resurrection from the dead. The event, together with Jesus' comments, leaves the disciples thoroughly confused.

HOW COULD GOD ASK ABRAHAM TO DO THAT?

Through the centuries, Christians and Jews alike have found the Binding of Isaac one of the most difficult passages in the Bible. Even though God intervenes to save Isaac, the whole episode strikes some readers as cruel. However, Abraham, the ultimate man of faith, raises no objection, offers no resistance as he simply goes about preparing for the trip and the sacrifice.

Today's other readings might help us see that text differently. In Mark's description of the Transfiguration, Jesus' clothes become white and shining, and Moses and Elijah appear with him. Moses was the great liberator and lawgiver who led the Jews out of bondage in Egypt and into the wilderness, forming them into the people of Israel by giving them the Law he received from God. Elijah was among Israel's greatest prophets, so close to God that, at the end of his life, he was taken up into heaven by a fiery chariot. Together, Moses and Elijah represent the Law and the Prophets, the ultimate authority for the Jews in the conduct of their daily lives.

LOVE AND GENEROSITY

The Law, the Prophets—and Jesus. For Paul, Jesus is someone quite different from the other two. The reading from his letter to the Romans is short, but rich in meaning. When Paul declares that God "did not spare his own Son," and when God praises Abraham "who did not withhold from me your own beloved son," it is the same Greek word for "spare" and "withhold." God's voice at the Transfiguration identifies Jesus as his "beloved Son"—the same way God refers to Isaac as Abraham's beloved son. Ultimately, God spares Isaac but not his own Son, whom he "handed over for us." Even if we are disturbed that God tested Abraham like this, Paul says we should be overwhelmingly grateful that God did for us what, in the end, he did not require of Abraham. Jesus, God's Son "handed over to us" in love and generosity, is already a sacrificial gift, signifying that God wants to give us "everything else along with him."

TODAY'S READINGS

Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18
Psalm 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19
Romans 8:31b-34
Mark 9:2-10

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