



# SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

51 Marketplace Irvine, CA 92602 · 949-551-8601 · [www.stmirvine.org](http://www.stmirvine.org)



## Mass schedule

**Daily**— Monday to Saturday: 8 am\*

### Saturday Vigil Mass:

4:00 pm Vietnamese/English

6:00 pm English

### Sunday Mass

8:00 am English

9:30 am English\*

11:30 am English

1:00 pm Spanish

3:00 pm Chinese

5:00pm English

\* Livestreamed Masses

**Morning Prayer:** Mon, Wed & Fri 7:30am to 7:50am

**Adoration:** Every Friday at 6:00pm

**24 Hour Adoration:** on the 22nd of every month

If the 22nd falls on a Saturday, then Adoration will be on Friday.

If the 22nd falls on a Sunday, then Adoration will be on Monday.

**Confession:** Saturday from 1:00pm to 3:00pm or by appointment

**Baptisms and Marriages:** contact the office for details

**TEXT TO GIVE:** (949) 919-5494



@stmirvine

**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

Chinese Chaplain

Weekend Assistants

Deacons

Founding Pastor

Parochial Vicar Emeritus

## Rev. Eugene J. Lee

Rev. Thomas Tran

Rev. Francis Li

Rev. Joseph Horn, O Praem

Rev. Joseph Justice

Deacon Tony & Mrs. Mary Patronite

Deacon Tin & Mrs. UyenLan Nguyen

Deacon Leonard & Mrs. Nancy Sun

Deacon Bernie & Mrs. Pam Ocampo

†Rev. John E. Janze

†Rev. William Krekelberg

## Office Information:

Office:

949-551-8601

After-hours emergency:

949-551-8601 ext. 7

Fax:

949-551-5879

Religious Education:

949-551-8029

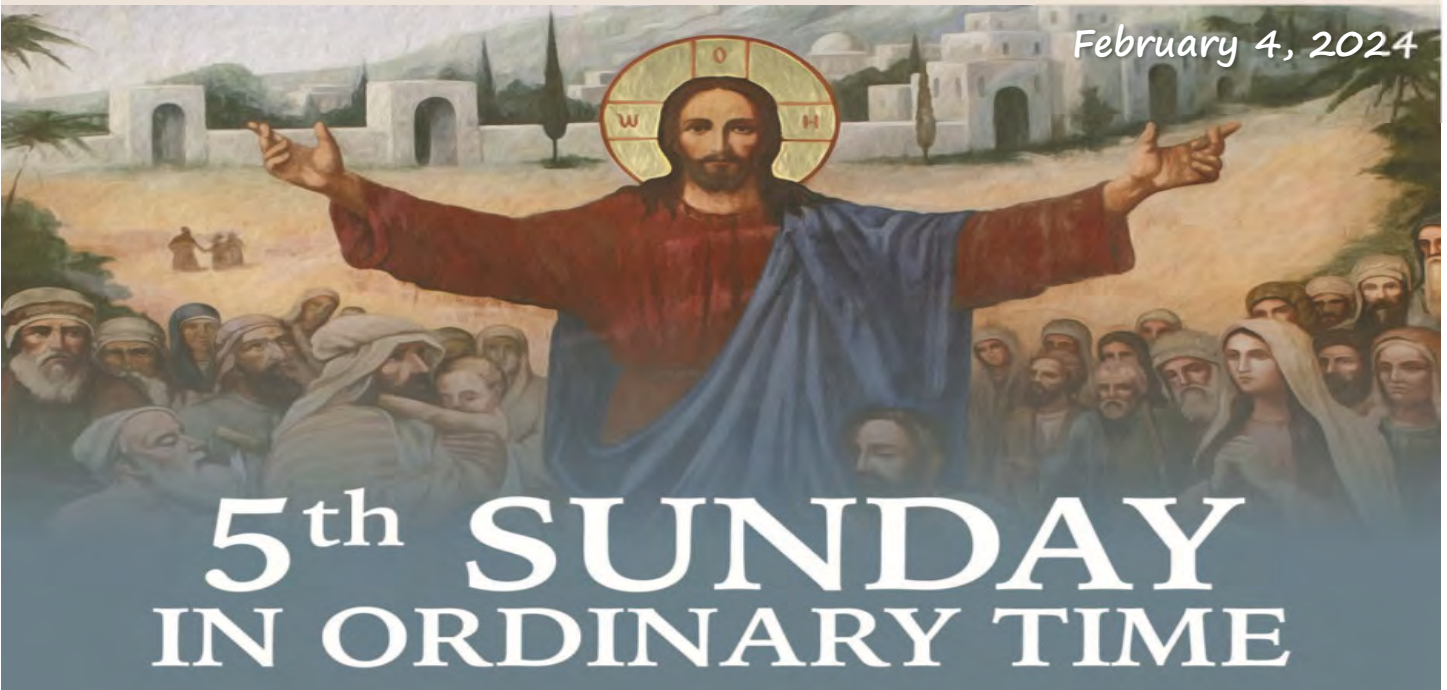
Youth Ministry:

949-551-8602

## Office Hours:

**Monday-Friday: 8:30am-5:00pm**

**Saturday: 9:00am-2:00pm**





Patrick Healey



Emily Connor & Guillermo Alcantar

### Collections and Expenses

1/22/2024 – 1/28/2024

	Collection	E-Giving	Total
Sunday Collection	\$14,197	\$10,863	\$25,060
Maintenance Fund	\$20	\$40	\$60
Other Income	\$4,518	\$1,595	\$6,113
Total Income	\$18,736	\$12,498	\$31,234

Regular Expenses	\$75,359
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Believe & Grow Capital Campaign	\$294	\$9,435	\$9,729
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### **IMPORTANT TAX INFO!**

End of year tax donation statements will be mailed to all registered parishioners who contributed \$250.00 or more in the 2023 calendar year. If you have any questions, please email [giving@stmirvine.org](mailto:giving@stmirvine.org).

### **2ND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND!**

This weekend, February 3rd and 4th, we will have a second collection for National Needs. This collection combines the collections for Catholic Campaign for Human Development; the Catholic Communication Campaign; Catholic Home Missions; and the Catholic University of America.

*Thank you for your generosity!*

## MASS INTENTIONS

- Sat 2/3 4:00pm The Vu Family  
6:00pm Alice Lussier
- Sun 2/4 8:00am Poitras Family  
9:30am PRO POPULO  
11:30am Fortunato Rebugio  
1:00pm Marc and Haruka Lemire  
5:00pm Barbara and Joe Krenak  
†Sean M. Mac Donnell  
†Dat Tat Nguyen
- Mon 2/5 8:00am Angelica Nguyen
- Tues 2/6 8:00am Regina Family
- Wed 2/7 8:00am Chuong Nguyen
- Thurs 2/8 8:00am Jaime Ovadia
- Friday 2/9 8:00am Glenda Mortenson
- Sat 2/10 8:00am †Edward Andrade  
†Rosita Macalino  
†Terry Sullivan  
†Mary Jane Graff  
†Joseph Kirsch



### **PRAYERS FOR HEALING**

- |                           |                             |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Flory Aguilar             | Fred Martinez               |
| Eddie Anderson            | Terry & Kathy McGaughan     |
| Sal Baldomar              | Desmond McMahon Family      |
| Froy Becerra              | Christy Miller              |
| Sofia Cardona             | Jim Miller                  |
| Carole Caplett            | Linda Moore                 |
| Cynthia Chavez            | Deirdre Morley              |
| Lou and Nancy Chereny     | Sharon Morley               |
| Elaine Chiou              | Matthew Muro                |
| Paul Cook                 | Susan Naverrete             |
| Victor Cota               | Ernie Natividad             |
| Sebastian de Leon         | Karen Norton                |
| Beata Durdovic            | Bill Oesterreich            |
| Cecelia Duzynski          | Ben Pataray                 |
| Kathy Encinas             | Sharon Pataray              |
| Joseph Franco             | Aileen Perez                |
| Bill Flood                | Dave Perry                  |
| Tony Galati               | Jerry & Evie Pilkington     |
| Marco Gama                | Jacqueline Claire Poznoski  |
| Anthony Gaona             | Donna Publico               |
| Tina Halberg              | Sandra Quezada              |
| CJ Hassett                | George Quitoriano           |
| Doug & Kathie Hibbard     | Paula Jane Ramirez          |
| Drew Hoang                | Al & Elizabeth Rangitsch    |
| Bennett Hohler            | Guadalupe Rivas             |
| Brooke Huisman            | Pauline Rocha               |
| Maria A. Johnson          | Donna Rohrer                |
| Angela Judy               | Norma Santiago              |
| Natalie and Warren Julian | Haseen Sarpas               |
| Gail Kurosawa             | Susan Shadley               |
| Lauren Leal               | Mark Stannard               |
| Greg Leech                | Tara Summers                |
| Dolly Lewis               | Maria Guadalupe Vasquez     |
| Jack Light                | Jesus Villanueva            |
| Richard & Jackie Lombardi | Raymund Villanueva          |
| Joseph Manglona           | Kristine & Brandon Williams |
|                           | Michele Wills               |

Please email [bulletin@stmirvine.org](mailto:bulletin@stmirvine.org) to add a name. Names will be included for one month, if requested.



ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

# LENTEN SEASON



## LETTER FROM THE PASTOR | Lent + Easter 2024

Suffering. Sin. Death. These are experiences that we often work hard to avoid but they are entrenched into our lives. Lent is a time to take a deep dive into the spirituality of suffering. But why would we want to? Because there indeed is a treasury of wisdom, virtue, power, and grace that is to be gained through our faithful and humble attendance at the School of the Cross of Jesus Christ. The Cross serves as a bullseye, the sure target of all our spirituality, for it is only in and through the Cross that we enter into salvation. Ultimately the Cross is about mercy. Mercy that forgives. Mercy that heals. Mercy that saves. Let us take our sufferings and our sins to the foot of the Cross, offering them humbly and prayerfully to our Savior. Let us faithfully pray the Stations of the Cross each Friday. Let us truly take to heart the sacrifice of refraining from meat on Fridays and fasting certain meals during the week. Let us make a resolve to explore how to pray more deeply – to see how *sacrifice* plays a crucial role within prayer. And then let us strive to imitate the mercy shown upon the Cross. 40 days with Jesus in the desert. 40 days to contemplate the Lord's Cross. Then we will launch into 50 days relishing in the victory of Jesus Christ over suffering, sin, and death. May you truly have a prayerful Lent so you may have a truly fulfilling and joyful Easter season.

Sincerely in Christ,

*Fr. Eugene J. Lee*  
Fr. Eugene J. Lee,  
Pastor

### Ash Wednesday, February 14th

Mass Times: 8:00am, 12:00pm, 3:30pm,  
5:30pm & 7:30pm

### Lenten Fridays

Soup and Scripture: 6:00pm  
February 16th, March 1st, March 15th

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry:  
Serving from 4:30pm to 6:30pm  
February 23rd, March 8th, March 22nd

Stations of the Cross & Adoration:  
Begins at 7:00pm every Friday  
+ Taizé Adoration on March 1st & 15th  
+ Living Stations on March 22nd

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Penance Service:  
Tuesday, March 12th at 7:00pm

Weekly Confessions:  
Saturdays from 1:00pm to 3:00pm

### Lenten Nights of Reflection

Two different talks featuring  
Fr. Augustine Wetta, O.S.B.

Sunday, March 10th at 6:00pm  
(including Lenten XLT)

Monday, March 11th at 7:00pm

Come to one or both. All are welcome!



# STM CONFIRMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY

## Upcoming Confirmation Classes

C1 Classes: Feb 7

C2 Classes: Feb 28

No class on Feb 14 due to Ash  
Wednesday. See you at Mass!

## YTH Nites: Sunday at 6PM

High school teens, join us this  
Sunday after the 5pm Mass: Sliding  
into the DMs. We will explore what  
holy relationships look like in the  
eyes of the Church. Dinner and  
dessert will be provided. The night  
will end at 8pm. See you there!

## Monday Night Bible Study

Join us Mondays at 7pm in the Parish  
Hall for a Bible study on the  
upcoming Sunday's readings. Get to  
know God's voice in the Bible so you  
can discern the voice of God out in  
the world.

## LENTEN XLT

With Fr. Augustine Wetta, O.S.B.  
Sun, March 10th at 6PM  
All are welcome!



## R.E.P. CORNER



Our First Reconciliation Retreat  
was a HUGE success!!

Special THANK YOUs go out to all of our  
First Communion students, parents,  
catechists and clergy that helped make this  
such a great event.

Please continue to pray for these young  
people and their families as they approach  
First Reconciliation.



## First Communion Families:

Please remember, First Reconciliations are  
set for Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 10AM.  
Please keep reviewing prayers (especially the  
Act of Contrition) & steps to Reconciliation  
with your children.

Please check with your student's REP  
teacher for any further details.



For any questions, call the  
REP Office at (949) 551-8029 or  
email [rep@stmirvine.org](mailto:rep@stmirvine.org).



## The Library Corner

The St Thomas More Parish Library staff would like  
to wish all our parishioners a Happy Fifth Sunday in  
Ordinary Time. The Parish Library will be open today  
from 9:00am to 1:00pm.

The seasons of the Catholic Church in the Roman Rite are: Advent,  
Christmas, Lent, Easter and Ordinary Time. The term Ordinary  
Time refers to the order of Sundays in the Church Liturgical Year  
that takes place in two parts, but is considered a single season. The  
season of Ordinary Time takes us through the life of Christ, the  
mystery of Christ, the teaching of Christ and the building-up of the  
kingdom of God. This journey is a time for life, re-growth and  
maturing in faith. The traditional color is green which is a sign of  
hope, rebirth and the triumph of life over death. The richness of  
this season is to give us the opportunity to know Christ more  
intimately in the everyday realities of our faith-filled life. The  
scripture proclaimed in this season reveals the teaching, healing  
and the Gospel mission of Christ. These are the days where we  
grow into who we are called to be by imitating the reality of the  
life of Jesus. Beatus Ordinarius Tempus



## This weekend @ STM:

- Young Ladies Institute Blessed Candles in courtyard  
(or in case of rain, in STM library or under the eaves of the church)
- Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast after all Sunday morning Masses
- Veiling Talk on Sunday at 10:30am in the St. Nicholas Room



PASTORAL SERVICES APPEAL

## FOR JESUS, FOR STM

*Please prayerfully consider  
supporting the 2024 PSA!*

**Our goal this year is 100%  
participation! No gift is too great  
or too small.**

**The PSA provides an opportunity  
for us to join together as one  
Diocesan church family.**



## HOLY SPIRIT PRAYER MEETING

1st & 3rd Friday  
7 pm in MPR

# Prayer

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with Prayer*

On [stmirvine.org](http://stmirvine.org)





- Enter Prayer Intentions
- Enter Answered Prayer Testimonials
- View and **Pray** for the Online Intentions
- Become a **Prayer Partner** – Pray for the Intentions once a week



## MEN'S RETREAT

*"Finding comfort in the  
Passion of Christ"*

**February 9-11, 2024**

Passionist Retreat Center

Reserve your spot by contacting

Mark Kreyche

[mkkreyche@gmail.com](mailto:mkkreyche@gmail.com)

Or scan code register



WELCOME TO



Women's Weekend  
March 2-3, 2024  
Lestonnac Retreat Center, Tustin

Men's Weekend  
March 16 & 17, 2024  
St. Thomas More Church, Irvine

Register today at [www.christrenewsoc.com](http://www.christrenewsoc.com)



Join us for an amazing, faith-filled weekend.  
Renew your faith. Connect with new friends. Grow your relationship with Jesus.



### Question:

Is Ash Wednesday a holy day of obligation?

### Answer:

Despite the often packed churches, you may be surprised to hear that the answer is no! Holy days of obligation commemorate a particular event (such as the birth of Christ at Christmas) or celebrate particular people (such as Mary's Immaculate Conception or the feast of All Saints). Ash Wednesday is a day of penance, fasting, and abstinence to begin the season of Lent. In a sense, it focuses on a *concept* rather than something particular and concrete.

Of course, repentance ought to be reflected in particular, concrete ways! That's one of the reasons that attending Mass on Ash Wednesday is a very good idea. It marks the beginning of a solemn season of penance. Despite all its comparisons to the desert, Lent can be very fruitful for our spiritual growth! Beginning this season with the celebration of Mass and the reception of ashes is a sign of our commitment to God and to spiritual growth.

### Ash Wednesday, February 14th

**Mass Times: 8:00am, 12:00pm, 3:30pm, 5:30pm & 7:30pm (multi-lingual)**



### FASTING

In the dioceses in the United States, Catholics aged 18 through 59 are bound to fast on both Ash Wednesday (**February 14, 2024**) and Good Friday (**March 29, 2024**). To *fast* means a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. Food and drink between meals (excepting water and medicine) is not permitted on fast days.

Since Ash Wednesday falls on Valentine's Day this year, some have been asking if there is a special dispensation from fasting and abstinence. The Bishops have not granted any special dispensations for Ash Wednesday this year. So, make sure to enjoy your Valentine's dinner and chocolates one day early on Fat Tuesday!

### ABSTINENCE FROM MEAT

Catholics aged 14 and up are to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, all Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday. To abstain means refraining from eating beef, veal, pork, or poultry at least, although eggs and milk products are acceptable. The consumption of fish and shellfish is permitted, though the penitential character of the abstinence should be kept in mind.



**Welcome**  
to St. Thomas More!



## New to St. Thomas More Parish?

Please call the Parish Office

(949) 551-8601

to register and become part of the STM Parish Family!

### Why should I become a registered member of STM?

If you are attending Mass on a regular basis at St. Thomas More, we invite you to engage with us. Registered parishioners enjoy these benefits:

- STM offers opportunities and support as you journey in faith, through praying, serving, giving, learning and belonging.
- Registered parishioners receive important updates throughout the year so that you can keep up-to-date on important parish news.
- Registered parishioners receive preference when choosing dates for celebrations such as weddings or funerals.
- Other parishes often request verification of a person's status as a practicing Catholic, attendance at Mass, etc., when that person has been asked to be a Godparent or Sponsor. Without registration, no such verification can be made.
- Your Sunday offerings are confidentially recorded by parish staff for proof of donation for tax purposes.

Registering with St. Thomas More Catholic Church is a statement of faith and confidence in the life and work of your parish.

Register today online at [www.stmirvine.org](http://www.stmirvine.org) or call the parish office at 949-551-8601.

## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Jesus went from town to town, synagogue to synagogue, following the need. He follows it still, to this very day. Your life is the town he is visiting, your heart the synagogue where he preaches. Remember that for this purpose he has come.



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### ***The Passover Sacrifice —***

As Jesus is offered as a  
sacrifice for our sins, the  
Israelites offered the blood of  
an unblemished lamb in order  
for the plagues of Egypt to  
pass over them.

## Questions of the Week

### First Reading

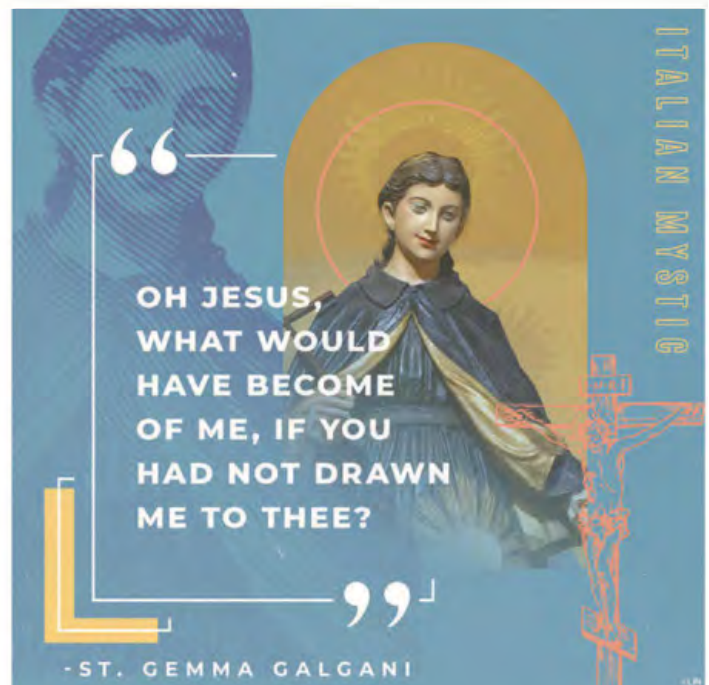
Job was overwhelmed with feelings of sadness and despair.  
How does your faith help you get through difficult times?

### Second Reading

Paul sees his "gospel" (the good news of Jesus Christ) as  
the center of his life. What do you think is the focus of  
your life?

### Gospel Reading

At the start of Jesus's public ministry in Galilee, we hear  
he was purpose-driven in performing many healings  
and exorcisms, as well as preaching the good news of  
the kingdom of God. What could you do this week as an  
intentional act of charity or kindness?



## Reverence at Mass

Mass is deeply sacred. Let us deepen our devotion to the Eucharist.

**D**RESS to meet the King of Kings

**E**ARLY to Mass

**E**NGAGE in Mass with your heart

**P**ARTICIPATE actively

**E**ND. Stay to the end of the FINAL HYMN

**N**EIGHBOR-MINDED. Help make Mass a sacred  
time for you and your brothers and sisters.

# Gospelize YOUR Story

**STM SMALL FAITH COMMUNITIES**

[WWW.STMIRVINE.ORG/SFC](http://WWW.STMIRVINE.ORG/SFC)



Scan for more info

## ST. THOMAS MORE MINISTRIES

### Liturgy Support

Altar Servers	Mary Jane Rin	(9) 627-7125
Art & Environment	Amee Cuevas	(9) 551-8601
Eucharist to the Homebound	Fran Necikowski	(7) 505-4816
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Jerry Donaldson	(9) 552-5485
Lectors	Ed Ferguson	(951) 313-4942
Music Director, Including Wedding Music	Keith Rattay	(9) 551-8601
Sacristans	Pam Ocampo	(9) 468.6704
Ushers	Frank Ornelas (9) 857-9044	Joe Martin (9) 385-3741

### Parish

Believe and Grow Together Campaign	Lisa VanDorpe	(7) 357-3080
Bulletin Editor	Lisa Bergler	(9) 551-8601
Building Committee	Keith Rattay	(9) 551-8601
Deacons	Tony Patronite, Tin Nguyen, Leonard Sun & Bernie Ocampo	(9) 551-8601
Facilities Manager	Ed Ferguson	(9) 551-8601
Hospitality/Donut Ministry	Deacon Tony Patronite	(9) 307-6215
Parish Business Manager	Stephanie Miller	(9) 551-8601
Parish Office Manager	Lisa Bergler	(9) 551-8601
Welcoming Committee	Vince Salico	(7) 389-7726

### Sacraments

Baptism Coordinator	Maggy Gall	(9) 551-8601
Confirmation	Barbara Catiller	(9) 551-8602
First Communion	Barbara Catiller	(9) 551-8029
First Reconciliation	Barbara Catiller	(9) 551-8029
Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)	Deacon Bernie & Pam Ocampo	(9) 468-6604
Marriage Case Support	Contact office	(9) 551-8601
Marriage Encounter	Mike & Lisa Bergler	(9) 551-8601
Wedding Coordinator	Marcella Maurer	(9) 551-8601

### Service




Bereavement	Rosie Muñoz	(9) 551-8601
Chinese Ministry	Deacon Leonard Sun	(7) 932-1689
Corazon	Norma Jean Womack	(9) 903-1472
Filipino Ministry	Mernie Empalmado	(9) 307-7479
Grief Share Ministry	K.C. Riley	(7) 875-8126
Hispanic Ministry	Victor Cota	(9) 400-7743
Homeless Lunch Ministry	Jessica Silva & Kim Lee	(9) 294-2875 (7) 293-8987
Knights of Columbus Council #13111	Jake Lowe	(657) 363-7281
Respect Life	Chris Gonzales	(9) 551-8601
Safety Ministry	Fred Simon	(310) 508-5053
STM Veterans	Sgt. Bob Kohler	(9) 552-1895
St. Vincent de Paul	Rick Lamoreux	(9) 331-1020
Vietnamese Ministry	Huan Le	(7) 261-9893
Young Ladies Institute	Gloria Glenn	(9) 294-9175

### Spiritual Development

Adult Faith Formation / Bible Study	Tara Reynaud	(9) 551-8601
Christ Renews His Parish	Tony Patronite	(9) 307-6215
Devotional Life Committee	Julie Whiteside	(7) 615-7205
Cursillo	Susan Navarrete	(9) 345-9130
Legion of Mary	Trisha Smith	(7) 473-3714
Library	Sam & Diana Adams	(7) 321-2405
Life Teen – High School & Young Adults	Bella Magetti & Hayley Moore	(9) 551-8602
More Moms	Krystal Padley	(9) 551-8601
Prayer Partners	Mary Cope	(7) 900-0632
Religious Education	Barbara Catiller	(9) 551-8029
Small Faith Communities	Denyse Gagnon	(7) 501-7848
Spanish Bible Study	Teresa LeMire	(7) 832-1770
When Women Pray	Paula Hines	(7) 746-1802

If you are feeling called to serve in one or more of our ministries, please email: [serve@stmirvine.org](mailto:serve@stmirvine.org)



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Victoria Quinn**

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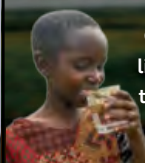
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## Around the Diocese...

### 2024 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA YOUTH CHORAL FESTIVAL & MASS *for Treble Choirs (grades 4-12)*



Saturday, March 9, 2024 • 10:30 a.m. - 5:45 p.m.

#### Christ Cathedral

13280 Chapman Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840

Bishop Kevin W. Vann, Celebrant

Dr. Bryan Zaros, Guest Conductor

8 Professional Development Credits are available for school conductors

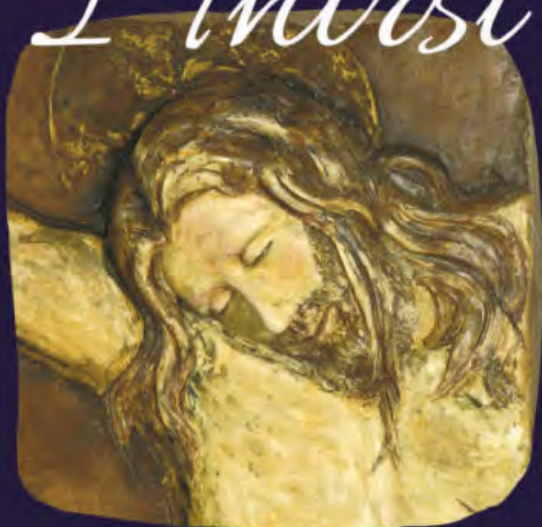


MP3 rehearsal tracks of the Festival repertoire are available for participating choirs.



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March 22-24 2024

Led by Pro Sanctity Members

Overnight Cost, Single Room: \$200; Double Occupancy: \$120; Commuters: \$75

Register to [caprosanctity@gmail.com](mailto:caprosanctity@gmail.com) by March 15th.

Pro Sanctity Spirituality Center 205 S. Pine Dr. Fullerton, CA 92833



### World Day of the Sick Mass

Bishop Kevin Vann

Principal Celebrant

Saturday, February 10, 2024

10 a.m.



Christ Cathedral

13280 Chapman Avenue

Garden Grove, CA 92840

Celebration held in  
Honor of  
Our Lady of Lourdes



Join us for a special  
Mass including

- ~Anointing of the Sick
- ~Blessing of the caregiver hands
- ~Blessing with Lourdes Water

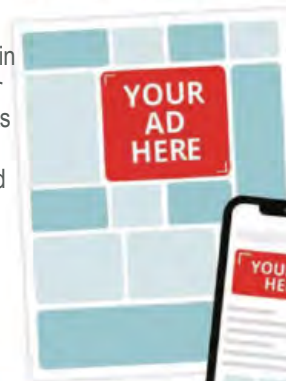


**Orange Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (ODCCW)** invite all women of Orange County to our February general gathering. Our keynote speaker is *Megan Morris from Life Center of Santa Ana*. Join us on Tuesday, February 20th @ St. Polycarp in Stanton, starting with 8:30 Mass (optional) Registration opens at 9am followed by a continental breakfast and lunch ending at noon. The suggested donation is \$25.00. Advanced registration is required. **Registration closes on Saturday, February 17 at 4pm.** For reservations or questions, visit: [www.ocdcw.org](http://www.ocdcw.org) or contact Susan Navarrete, at [snavarrete150@gmail.com](mailto:snavarrete150@gmail.com). We look forward to seeing you!

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