



# 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**

March 31, 2024

THE STONE  
REMOVED FROM  
**THE TOMB.**

JOHN 20:1

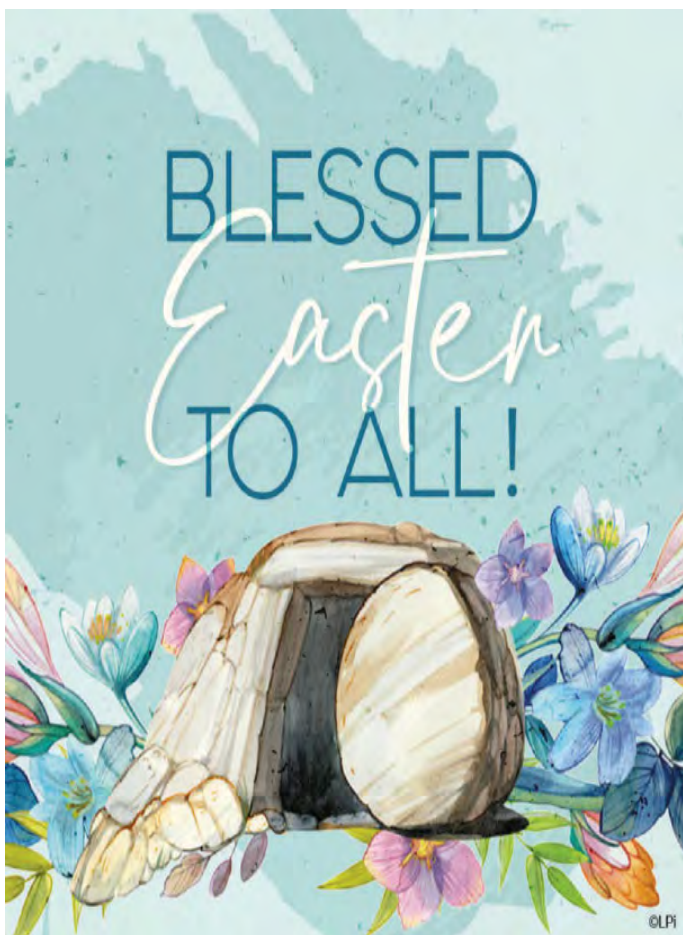
EASTER SUNDAY

The Resurrection  
of the Lord



Sun 3/31

6:00am	†Richard Geise
8:00am	†Beatrice Lopez
10:00am inside	Peter Long Tran
10:00am outside	Gerry Ordiano
12:00pm inside	†John R. Schulte
12:00pm outside	Steve Cory
2:00pm	†Francisco Javier Lozoya
4:00pm	Ashley Vu



### PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Sam Adams  
 Flory Aguilar  
 Baby Dean Alvero  
 Eddie Anderson  
 Sal Baldomar  
 Froy Becerra  
 Joann Calachico  
 Sofia Cardona  
 Carole Caplett  
 Cynthia Chavez  
 Lou and Nancy Chereny  
 Victor Cota  
 Sebastian de Leon  
 Beata Durdovic  
 Cecelia Duzynski  
 Kathy Encinas  
 Joseph Franco  
 Tony Galati  
 Marco Gama  
 Anthony Gaona  
 Tina Halberg  
 CJ Hassett  
 Doug & Kathie Hibbard  
 Drew Hoang  
 Angela Judy  
 Natalie and Warren Julian  
 Gail Kurosawa  
 Lauren Leal  
 Jack Light  
 Richard & Jackie Lombardi  
 Joseph Manglona  
 Terry & Kathy McGaughan

Desmond McMahon Family  
 Christy Miller  
 Jim Miller  
 Linda Moore  
 Deirdre Morley  
 Sharon Morley  
 Matthew Muro  
 Susan Navarrete  
 Ernie Natividad  
 Julie Nguyen  
 Bill Oesterreich  
 Ben Pataray  
 Sharon Pataray  
 Jacqueline Claire Poznoski  
 Donna Publico  
 Sandra Quezada  
 Ryan Quinn  
 George Quitorian  
 Paula Jane Ramirez  
 Al & Elizabeth Rangitsch  
 Guadalupe Rivas  
 Pauline Rocha  
 Donna Rohrer  
 Norma Santiago  
 Susan Shadley  
 Mark Stannard  
 Tara Summers  
 Denise J. Trujillo  
 Maria Guadalupe Vasquez  
 Jesus Villanueva  
 Raymund Villanueva  
 Kristine & Brandon Williams  
 Michele Wills

### Divine Mercy Novena



Chaplet Times here at STM:

**Easter Sunday, March 31st:**

after 10:00am Mass & every day this week  
 after 8:00am Mass

**Divine Mercy Sunday, April 7th:**

Chaplet will be recited after all Masses

Due to early bulletin deadlines, collections and expenses will be reported at a later time. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

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





## LETTER FROM YOUR PASTOR | EASTER 2024

### EASTER BEAUTY

The world is charged with the grandeur of God.  
It will flame out, like shining from shook foil;  
It gathers to a greatness, like the ooze of oil  
~ Gerard Manly Hopkins ~

Spring is here! It is no coincidence that Easter and Spring coincide. From my office I have a great view of our beautiful campus. During my seminary days, I did a deep dive into the theology of beauty, which is essentially a trinitarian theology. That means, we believe that God is Trinity, which really means that God's very nature is right and in perfect relationship. Within his very being God is love. Love by its very nature (1) creates life, (2) is always beautiful. One of the most mind-blowing moments of my learning in the seminary was when the professor taught us about how "the *form* of beauty is the Cross." Wow! What does that mean?? Well, all true beauty is a manifestation of love - in other words, beauty is an essential property of love. Jesus teaches us, "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends," (John 15:13). There is no higher expression of love than Jesus' sacrificial love upon the Cross (which is the culmination of Christ's Incarnation). This means that the Cross is the most beautiful expression possible. It's a paradox. If anybody has ever seen the movie, *The Passion of the Christ*, you know just how grotesque and horrific the crucifixion was. Yet, with the eyes of faith, and because it was the ultimate act of the love of Christ, we can say that it is the highest form of beauty possible!! The beauty of nature all around us and our human expressions of reverent liturgy, sacred arts, and architecture, radiates the love of Jesus Christ. All beauty flows from the deepest recesses of Christ's heart of merciful love.

The beauty of nature all around is indeed pleasing to the eye and to our soul, but it is merely a *tent* within which radiates the splendid beauty of God's love. The Catholic Church's *sacraments* operates by the same principle. Therefore, the task of each one of us is to use *faith* to transcend. We practice faith that transcends most importantly through our exercise of the liturgy (the Mass), and our persistence of prayer. And our acts of faith cannot be separated from hope and love. From our reverent worship within the Mass, we are given the template for our lives. If we are to experience Easter in all its glory, we cannot do so without fear of the Lord, without reverent worship, without submission of our will as the best means to unite with the Cross, which again is the true form of beauty. Easter sets for us a *vision* that inspires us and gives us true purpose for why we should strive to go deep within Mass, why we should love our neighbor, why we should repent from our sins, why we should learn to pray, and why we should never allow for the surface, visible and tangible to be the operating principle of our lives. Easter tells us, "Behold, the kingdom of God is among you." (Luke 17:21) The radiance of Easter is the presence of God's Kingdom all around us. That's why I love being your pastor here because I experience Easter here every day. I see all the time around here how Good Friday always leads to Easter Sunday.

Love you all!

Sincerely in Christ,

*Fr. Eugene Lee*  
Fr. Eugene Lee.



**STM  
CONFIRMATION  
&  
YOUTH MINISTRY**

**Upcoming Confirmation Classes**

**C1 Classes: April 10**

**C2 Classes: April 17**

**YTH Nites: Sunday at 6PM**

High school teens, join us on April 7th after the 5pm Mass for the "Rise Above" Adoration YTH Nite!

**Monday Night Bible Study**

Join us Mondays at 7pm in the Youth Room for Bible Studies! We'll go over the readings for the upcoming Sunday.

*Rise  
above.*

APRIL 7 | 6PM



**R.E.P.  
CORNER**



**HAPPY EASTER!!!**



The REP staff wishes all of our students, teachers and families a happy, holy and joyous Easter! God bless you all!



**THANK YOU!!**

A special THANK YOU goes out to all of our volunteer "bunnies" and other helpers that made this year's STM Easter Egg Hunt a great event for all of our families. From those who donated candy and baskets, to those who set up the hunt and hid the Easter Eggs, to the families that attended with their "skillful egg hunters," everyone had a fantastic time!



**REP EASTER BREAK**

**March 17 through April 6**

The Religious Education Program is on Easter Break through April 6<sup>th</sup>. There will be NO classes and the REP Office will be closed.



**The Library Corner**

The St Thomas More Parish Library staff would like to wish all our parishioners a Happy Easter Sunday. The Parish Library will not be open today.

Today, let us rejoice and be glad, 'Alleluia, Alleluia', for Christ has risen, 'Alleluia'. Alleluia is the Greek translation of the Hebrew 'hallelu-yah', meaning 'Praise the Lord'. Christ resurrection means to every Catholic that redemption is obtained. Our sin is destroyed, death is overcome, divine life brought back to us and our body, which is promised for immortality. This is the divine plan of God, through Jesus Christ, the new Adam, that mankind would be made worthy of divine sonship. We are no longer mere humans living on this planet for a few short years, but are citizens of heaven, made children and heirs of God, the Father by Jesus Christ in the Holy Family.

*'I say, exult, let them exult, the hosts of heaven, exult, let Angel ministers of God, exult, let the trumpet of salvation sound aloud our mighty King's triumph, exult.'*

Have a blessed Easter Sunday. Alleluia!





## Observances for the week of March 31, 2024

- Sunday:** Easter Sunday  
**Monday:** Monday within the Octave of Easter; April Fools' Day  
**Tuesday:** Tuesday within the Octave of Easter  
**Wednesday:** Wednesday within the Octave of Easter  
**Thursday:** Thursday within the Octave of Easter  
**Friday:** Friday within the Octave of Easter  
**Saturday:** Saturday within the Octave of Easter  
**Next Sunday:** 2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy)



## Saint of the week

Venerable Francis-Xavier Nguyễn Văn Thuận, was a cardinal from Huế, Vietnam. Imprisoned for his faith for 13 years, nine of which were in solitary confinement, he never stopped preaching, even from scraps of prison paper. Once released, he continued to serve the Church until his death.

## Prayer of Blessing

Dear Lord,  
 Pour your blessings upon us today, we who trust in your name and call upon you. Send us your Spirit, enlighten our hearts, fill our lives with your abundance. Amen.

## SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

# PILGRIMAGE TO ENGLAND

In the footsteps of the great saints of England

**10 Days: Sept 10-19, 2024**

\$4,749 Full package (for double occupancy),  
 \$1,195 (single room supplement)

**-Pilgrimage Spiritual Directors-**

St. Thomas More St. John of Beverley St. John Henry Newman St. John Fisher

Fr. Eugene Lee, Pastor of St. Thomas More Church, Irvine  
 Fr. Al Bica, Episcopal Vicar for Environment, Diocese of Orange  
 Fr. Ben Tran, Chaplain for American Catholics, U.S. Marine  
 Fr. Glenn Dunton, Pastor of St. John Henry Newman, Irvine

## Easter Season Series

# The Lamb on the Throne

5-Week Bible Study with Fr. Eugene Lee

How the whole Bible really is about the Eucharist!

**FRIDAYS: April 5, 12, 19, 26 & May 3**

6:00 pm—Prayerful reflection on the Eucharist during Eucharistic Exposition  
 7:00 pm—Bible Study

## Extending her mantle over the whole world

# Mary Mother Guardian of the Faith

Patricia Talbot visits us from Cuenca-Ecuador to share her experience of faith and the desire of the heart of Mary Mother Guardian of the Faith to live a life of **true conversion**. She will talk about the threats to our faith and how to defend it with love.

Patricia Talbot nos visita desde Cuenca-Ecuador, para compartir su experiencia de fe y el deseo del corazón de Maria Madre Guardian de la Fe de vivir una vida de **conversión verdadera**. Nos hablará sobre los peligros que atentan la fe y cómo defenderla con amor.

## ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Saturday April 6, 2024  
 Holy Mass: 8:00am Talk: 9:00 am

51 Marketplace  
 Irvine, CA 92602

Contact:  
 Paula Hines  
 (714) 746-1802





## Share Christ's love with others!

PSA envelopes are available on the tables around the church.  
You can place your completed envelopes in the offertory baskets during Mass.

Or go to [www.rcho.org/psa](http://www.rcho.org/psa) Thank You!

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# HOLY SPIRIT

## PRAYER MEETING

Every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the Month

7 pm

Multi purpose room

Scan for more information

Questions?  
[stthomasstm@gmail.com](mailto:stthomasstm@gmail.com)



# 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.

## Prayer Partners

Supporting Others 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





## RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

### What Would Mary Do?

This Easter morning, I am thinking of Mary Magdalene.

I want to know her state of mind as she approached the tomb in the darkness. Was she afraid? Was she thinking clearly? Was she tired? Had grief and trauma robbed her of her sleep the last two nights? What did she intend to do? Anoint Christ's body, yes — but what else? Kiss his hands, trace the markings where the lash had fallen upon his skin? Say goodbye? Weep? Despair?

What were the words she planned to whisper into the cold, empty darkness that morning, as she wept over God's body?

I don't know anything about her state of mind that Easter morning, except that I know she wanted to be with Christ. Perhaps that was all she knew, too. Perhaps she had no other thought, no other desire, than nearness to him. She didn't need to understand everything, and she didn't expect answers — she didn't dare hope for that.

But everything and everyone had fallen apart around her, and in Jesus' presence she knew her heart would be able to rest.

If you have ever been in the midst of a crisis in your life and found yourself pacing the floors of your house when no one else is awake, muttering the words to a prayer you know by heart, you know what Mary Magdalene felt. In those moments, we do not always feel God's presence. Sometimes, when we look for Him, we only see an empty tomb.

When these dark moments come, I pray you will remember the faithfulness of this great saint. Be like Mary Magdalene. Look for Jesus, always. You may not always find him, but he will always find you.

*"She ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, 'They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him.'"* — John 20:2

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## DINNER DANCE CELEBRATION

HONORING FR. EUGENE'S 50TH BIRTHDAY & 20TH YEAR OF ORDINATION  
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**JUNE 1ST, 2024**

6:00 PM COCKTAIL HOUR (NO HOST BAR)  
7:00 PM DINNER

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\*Please make checks payable to St. Thomas More Catholic Church (write "50/20 Event" in the memo)

## SCHOOL OF EVANGELIZATION

Are you passionate about sharing the love of Christ and spreading the Gospel message?  
Saint Thomas More invites you to embark on a transformative journey of faith and service.



JOIN OUR PARISH AS A SCHOOL OF EVANGELIZATION CANDIDATE!

### QUALIFICATIONS:

- Deep desire to grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ
- Commitment to actively participate in weekly formation sessions
- Willingness to engage in evangelization efforts within your parish community
- Fully initiated Catholics with pastor's recommendation

### WHAT TO EXPECT:

- Dynamic teaching sessions led by experienced facilitators
- Opportunities for personal spiritual growth and discernment
- Practical strategies for effective evangelization in today's world

Don't miss this chance to deepen your faith and become a more effective evangelizer!  
Contact Tara Reynaud, Director for Adult Faith Formation, [tara@stmirvine.org](mailto:tara@stmirvine.org) to learn more and reserve your spot.

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### 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	Gerry Ordiano, Jr.	(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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## Around the Diocese...



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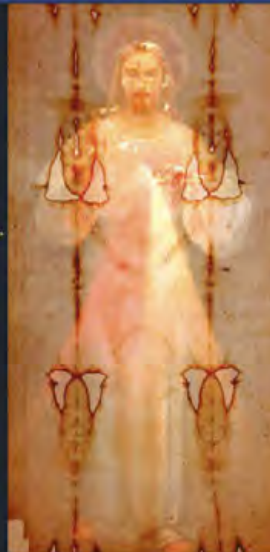
ADRIANA ACUTIS AND FR. ROBERT SPITZER, S.J.  
THE HOLY SHROUD, THE DIVINE MERCY IMAGE, & EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES

## APRIL 6, 2024 - 7PM

Join us for an unforgettable evening with Adriana Acutis, Vice President of the Carlo Acutis Foundation, and Fr. Robert Spitzer, S.J. as they discuss the relationship between the Holy Shroud, the Divine Mercy Image, and the Eucharistic Miracles.

This event is sponsored by the Diocese of Orange and the Shroud Center of Southern California with the support of the Carlo Acutis Foundation.

Lecture begins at 7:00 pm in Freed Theater on the campus of the Christ Cathedral located at 13280 Chapman Ave. Garden Grove, CA 92840. Free and open to the public, but tickets for entry will be required. Available beginning March 1, 2024.



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