



# SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

51 Marketplace Irvine, CA 92602 · 949-551-8601 · 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

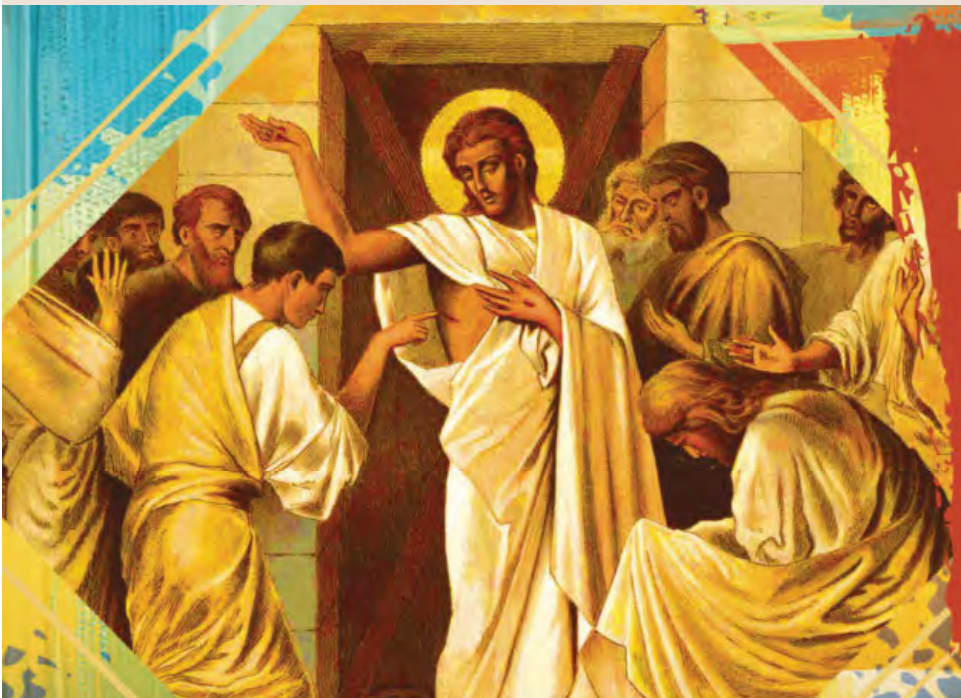
Youth Ministry:

949-551-8602

### Office Hours:

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

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



April 7, 2024

2ND SUNDAY OF  
EASTER (SUNDAY OF  
DIVINE MERCY)

“Put your finger here  
and see my hands,  
and bring your hand  
and put it into my side,  
and do not be unbelieving,  
but believe.” - Jn 20: 27



**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

We find unfathomable mercy and everlasting love in the wounds of Christ — even when we are skeptical, even when we carry doubt. God meets us there in the confusion. He reaches for our hand and places them at his side. We just have to call his name.

## Observances for the week April 7, 2024

- Sunday:** 2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy)  
**Monday:** The Annunciation of the Lord  
**Thursday:** St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr  
**Saturday:** St. Martin I, Pope and Martyr  
**Next Sunday:** 3rd Sunday of Easter



### 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 Quitoriano  
 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

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

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



## LETTER FROM YOUR PASTOR | EASTER 2024

### EASTER BEAUTY

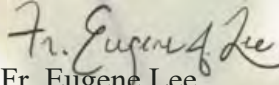
The world is charged with the grandeur of God.  
It will flame out, like shining from shook foil;  
It gathers to a greatness, like the ooze of oil  
~ Gerard Manly Hopkins ~

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.

**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 this weekend, 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



**REP.  
CORNER**



**CONGRATULATIONS!!**



We would like to  
congratulate & welcome

Avery Allen, Andre Arakelian, Melanie Arakelian, Catalina Araujo, Christian Cook, Dane Cook, Cameron Scott, Grayson Velez, AJ Walker & Rachel Widjaja

who were fully initiated into our Church over the last two weekends! May God continue to bless them and all of our newly initiated as they continue their faith journey!

**SCUBA—**

**Diving Into Friendship with GOD**

is coming to STM the week of

July 8<sup>th</sup>—July 12<sup>th</sup>.

Hope to see you all at this fun-filled,  
action-packed week!

Stay tuned for details.



**WELCOME BACK!!**

All REP Kindergarten—8<sup>th</sup> grade classes  
return THIS week.

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



**The Library Corner**

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

Have you ever thought how powerful the Sacraments of the Catholic Church are? According to the early Church Fathers, a Sacrament signifies a sacred thing which lies concealed or hidden. The Greeks expressed the same idea in the word, 'mysterion' (Latin: sacramentum) or literally mystery. Therefore, a Sacrament is a sacred mystery from God that lies hidden until revealed by His will. A Church parishioner had this sacred mystery revealed to him through the Anointing of the Sick. He was in the hospital with major heart problems and was scheduled for a procedure the next day that would stop the heart and then restart the heart to hopefully get it back in rhythm, which was dangerous and life threatening. After the Anointing and during the night before the procedure, the sacred mystery of God regulated the rhythm of his heart and he was spared the dangerous procedure. All the other heart problems were also regulated. The hospital staff was amazed. The visible Rite of the Anointing of the Sick, makes present the graces of God to those who receive them. Deo Gratias

## GOSPEL MEDITATION -

A protestant pastor friend of mine was invited to meet Pope Francis with a group of other pastors. He noticed the Pope's chair was especially ornate and set at the head of the group. He somewhat playfully said, "Holy Father, why do *you* get that special chair?" The group chuckled nervously at my friend's audacious chide.

The following year, the group was invited to return. They entered the room to find only simple chairs placed in a circle. Pope Francis entered, sat down in one of the humble chairs and, looking directly at my friend, with a twinkle in his eye, asked, "What do you think of my chair now?" My friend was stunned that the Pope remembered his concerns — and took the time to answer them.

Thomas the apostle was certainly stunned by the Risen Jesus displaying his wounds in person. But he also must have been equally shocked that Jesus knew and answered his particular questions, worries, and even demands related to his faith. How humbled — and perhaps a bit terrified — he must have been to realize God remembers his concerns and cares enough to answer them.

What questions or demands about Jesus do you find in your heart? Like Thomas, will you be bold enough to voice them this week? How wonderful to know that if we do so, God will remember and respond even to our most audacious desires. — *Father John Muir* ©LPi

No Request  
is too  
*Audacious*  
for God.

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

## 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.

## DINNER DANCE CELEBRATION

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# Divine Mercy Sunday

The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be recited after all Masses this weekend.

Jesus promised to give the following if one participates in a Mass on Divine Mercy Sunday and receive Holy Communion in a state of grace:

- (1) Extraordinary Grace - The complete forgiveness of sins and punishment or a *Renewal of Baptismal Grace*
- (2) A Plenary Indulgence

In the Jubilee Year of 2000, Pope John Paul II proclaimed that the Second Sunday of Easter be called "Divine Mercy Sunday." He also strongly encouraged the whole universal Church to heed the messages and revelations Jesus had given to St. Faustina in *The Diary of St. Faustina*. This special call for our time is to turn back to God and the "F.I.N.C.H" are helpful means to that end.

When we approach to receive Holy Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday, we are approaching the divine floodgates where He will give us the "Extraordinary Graces" of complete forgiveness (remission) of sins and punishment, if we are in a state of grace. Jesus promised us this "Extraordinary Grace" to emphasize the infinite value of **Confession and Communion** as miracles of mercy.

*The Eucharist is the divine floodgates where all graces flow.*

## Remember F.I.N.C.H

**F = Feast of Divine Mercy Sunday.** Jesus promised to give "Extraordinary Graces" on this day, which is equivalent to the *complete renewal of baptismal grace* or complete forgiveness of sins and punishment, in addition to the plenary indulgence (Diary #699).

**I = Image.** Venerate the image of Jesus with the signature: "*Jesus, I trust in You.*" The more a soul trusts in His Mercy, the more it will receive (Diary #1578).

**N = Novena.** The nine days of the Divine Mercy Novena have specific set of intentions to offer. *It begins on Good Friday* (Diary #1209-1228, #796).

**C = Chaplet.** The Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed on regular Rosary beads. Jesus promised that those who pray the Chaplet would receive great mercy at the hour of death (Diary #474-476, #687).

**H = Hour.** Jesus died for us on the Cross at 3 pm. Every day between 3pm and 4pm is known as the Hour of Great Mercy. At this hour, you can obtain everything for yourself and for others for the asking (Diary #1572).



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**Explanations of the "Extraordinary Graces" promised by Jesus and the Plenary Indulgence offered by the Church for special devotions to the Divine Mercy on Mercy Sunday**

**To receive the "Extraordinary Graces" which is equivalent to the complete renewal of baptismal grace in the soul: "Complete forgiveness (remission) of sins and punishment" we should:**

1. Celebrate the Feast on the Sunday after Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday).
2. Repent sincerely of all our sins.
3. Place our complete trust in Jesus.
4. Go to Confession, preferably before the day of the Feast.
5. Receive Holy Communion on the day of the Feast.
6. Venerate the Image of The Divine Mercy.
7. Be merciful to others, through our actions, words, and prayers on their behalf.

**To receive a Plenary Indulgence for yourself or for a Holy Soul in Purgatory, the following five conditions must be fulfilled:**

1. Do the prescribed work, or in this case, participate in public devotions to the Divine Mercy on Divine Mercy Sunday itself.
2. Receive Holy Communion on the same day that we performed the indulgenced act.
3. Go to Confession within 20 days (before or after) the indulgenced act.
4. Pray for the intentions of the Holy Father (usually an Our Father, a Hail Mary and a Glory Be).
5. Have complete detachment from all sin, even venial sin. In other words, a complete rejection of the desire to commit any sin.

Ideally, the faithful would seek to obtain the plenary indulgence on this day for the sake of souls in purgatory even while, at one and the same time, they are receiving for themselves the "extraordinary grace" of the Holy Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday, in accordance with our Lord's promises to St. Faustina.

**Plenary Indulgences** remove the temporal punishment of the sins that have been confessed and forgiven. In contrast, the "**Extraordinary Graces**" obtained on Divine Mercy Sunday that Jesus Christ promised to the world, through St. is the complete renewal of the same baptismal grace – the complete remission of sins and punishment. "Extraordinary Grace" is available if conditions mentioned above are met and is greater than a plenary indulgence.

Note: You can find more in-depth treatment of this subject in the document entitled "Understanding Divine Mercy Sunday" published by John Paul II Institute of Divine Mercy.

## 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                                   | 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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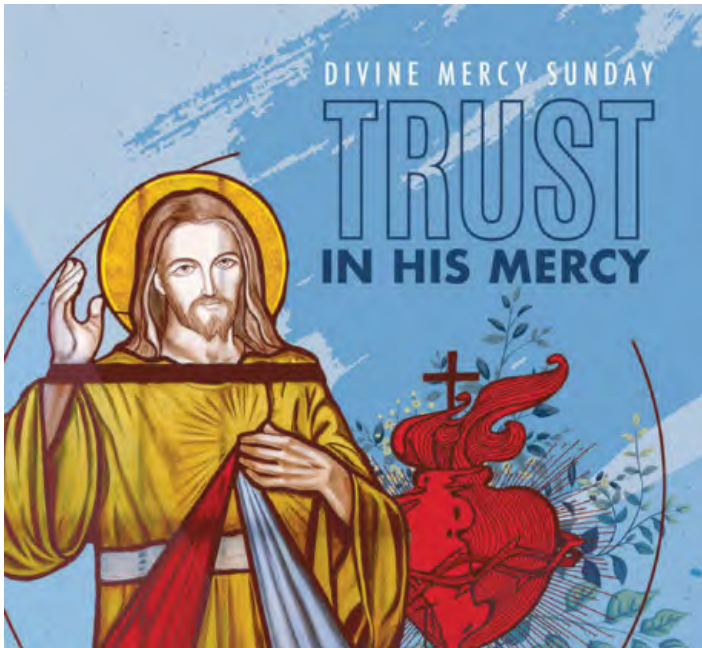
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