



SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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
Pastor Emeritus
Parochial Vicar Emeritus
Weekend Assistants

Rev. Eugene J. Lee

Rev. Kiet Ta
Rev. John E. Janze
Rev. William Krekelberg
Rev. Joseph Horn, O Praem
Rev. Joseph Justice
Deacon Tony & Mrs. Mary Patronite
Deacon Tin & Mrs. UyenLan Nguyen
Deacon Leonard & Mrs. Nancy Sun

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

Deacons

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday: 8:30am-5:00pm
Saturday: 9:00am-2:00pm



TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



AS FOR ME AND
MY HOUSEHOLD,

*we will serve
the Lord.*

JOSHUA 24:15

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AUGUST 22, 2021



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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Joshua challenges the Israelites to serve either the Lord or other gods. They choose the Lord (Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b).

Psalm — Taste and see the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 34).

Second Reading — Paul reflects on how husbands and wives should reverence and love each other (Ephesians 5:21-32 [2a, 25-32]).

Gospel — Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life (John 6:60-69).

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.

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 6:00pm to 7:00pm

Saturday Confessions: 1:00pm to 3:00pm

Mass will be available online for the sick and homebound on Sundays at 10:00am and Monday-Saturday at 8:00am

For spiritual advisement, please contact the priest to schedule an appointment.

MASS INTENTIONS

Please call the front desk to request a Mass Intention

Monday 8/23	8:00am	†Caden Wenner
Tuesday 8/24	8:00am	Ken Hughes
Wednesday 8/25	8:00am	†Caden Wenner
Thursday 8/26	8:00am	†Paul and Marjorie Hoying
Friday 8/27	8:00am	†Max Miramontes
Saturday 8/28	8:00am	†Raymond Hardiman
	8:00am	†Ann Hackett
	8:00am	†Brother Jude Byrne, OSF
	8:00am	D. Sarkar
	8:00am	Brandon Caperton
	8:00am	Zachary Sarkar
	8:00am	Fr Eugene Lee
	8:00am	Fr John Janze
Sunday 8/29	8:00am	†Anicia Estiller
	8:00am	†Pepito Fajiculay
	4:00pm	†Rustica Paranal
	6:00pm	Pro Populo
	8:00am	Fr. Kiet Ta
	10:00am	†Ramon Navarro
	12:00pm	†Lien Paula Han
5:00pm	†Vincente Nguyen Phi Long	



(Y L I)



The Young Ladies Institute

School Supply Drive

the weekend of

August 21st and 22nd



It's time to shop for school supplies to benefit schools in need.

Monetary donations will also be accepted

Dear Brothers and Sisters of St. Thomas More Parish,

Today's theme on the readings: DECISIONS

There is an axiom that states, "Not to decide is to decide." This saying was popular in the turbulent times of the Vietnam War. It urged us not to allow others to answer the moral questions raised by our nation's involvement in that terrible conflict, but to decide for ourselves. Making such choices is never easy. Avoiding them is common. Jesus, for his part, was not only a gallant risk-taker, but a clear decision-maker. As he pursued the mission to which the Father called him, he continually decided for us and for the Father. He worked hard to lay out a scenario that would enable others to make similar choices. Never did he make decisions for others or force others into decisions, even decisions that had eternal ramifications. Jesus is inviting us to make such decisions today. We won't be absolutely sure. What is sure, however, is the command that issues from God's word: Take the risk. Decide!

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Sincerely In Christ,
Father Eugene

Collections and Expenses

8-9-2021 to 8-15-21

	Collection	E-Giving	Total
Sunday Collection	\$13,753	\$8,427	\$22,180
Believe & Grow	\$2,810	\$767	\$3,577
BGT- Phase 2	\$875	\$3,023	\$3,898
Building Fund	\$106	\$84	\$190
Other income	\$735	\$312	\$1,047

Regular Expenses	\$37,622
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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!**



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Mt 23:13-22
Tuesday: Rv 21:9b-14; Ps 145:10-13, 17-18; Jn 1:45-51
Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13; Ps 139:7-12ab; Mt 23:27-32
Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13; Ps 90:3-5a, 12-14, 17; Mt 24:42-51
Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8; Ps 97:1, 2b, 5-6, 10-12; Mt 25:1-13
Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Mt 25:14-30
Sunday: Dt 4:1-2, 6-8; Ps 15:2-5; Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27; Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23



PLEASE PRAY FOR HEALING

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Sally Acosta | Marnie Gray | Exy Ner |
| Stacey Allen | Alice Green | Benjamin Nicanor |
| Richy Altuna | Tina Halberg | Karen Norton |
| Mike Anderson | Baby Johanna Harris | Nam Van Nguyen |
| Renee Andrade | Mike Harvey | Thuy-Lieu Nguyen |
| Judy Anselmo | Shirley Hecker | Quy Nguyen |
| Alicia Arrellano | John Heffernan | Kyle Osbourne |
| Ed Baldyga | Robert Henry | Agnes Pamintuam |
| Sam Baniqued | Annette Hills | Benny Parades |
| Zicky Baniqued | Margaret Hills | Regina Park |
| Jesus Barragan | Clara Honea | Norma Jeanne Parrish |
| Terry Beck | Dominador Hontucan | Den Tony & Mary Patronite |
| Blanca Bermudez | Sue House | Gabby Paz |
| Maria Botello | Linda Hughes | Charlie Perrea |
| Michele Bradley | Angela Jack | K. Nga Phan |
| Bill Burk | Elsa Jatwani | Ngocle Phung |
| Mary & Joe Bush | Theresa Johnston | Jerry and Evie Pilkington |
| Baby Zane Cabazon | Sharon Jones | Zachary Quick |
| Linda Carter | Doris Jordan | Norma Quyang |
| Ellen Chang | Quinn Kelly | Fr. Jim Reis |
| Cyrus Charna | Jim Kendall | Paula Reno |
| Marietta Charbonneau | Houman Khaghani | Lorraine Reyes |
| Hui-Mei Chen | Jett Knight | Ponciano Reyes |
| Clara Connor | Ty Vivian Knisely | Robert Arnold Rull |
| Alexandra Conti | Elizabeth Kulas | Sheila Russo |
| Paul Cook | Richard Kulas | Terry Rute |
| Petra Cordova | Deborah Kurilchyk | Anita Ruwaldt |
| Francisco Cortez | Larry Lathrum | Debashish Sarkar |
| Jim Danaher | Glenn Leckie | Jackson & Gerri Scharff |
| Mark Daniel | Damian Ledesma | Stuart Schnieder |
| Rick Denham | Todd Leeds | Michelle Suh |
| Diana & Liberato DeVeyra | Jack Light | Tara Summers |
| Larry Doan | Minerva Lopez | Liz Thomas |
| Chela Echenique | Aida Lopez-Tan | Gail Tierney |
| Linda Emanuel | Gloria MacCormack | Xuan Tran |
| Meynard Encarnacion | Myrna Malazarte | Denise Trujillo |
| Thomas Erhard | Kristin Mann | Jack Troung |
| Richard Erhard | Mercedes Mantilla | Kimberly Truong |
| Jacob Espinoza | Cherry Marinas | Baby Catherine Tseng |
| Lena Fisher | Cavan McGaffney | David Valentine |
| Cynthia Fox | Kathleen McKinley | Daniel Villareal |
| Howard Frankel, MD | Connie Mellott | Jim Vessey |
| Ken Freund | Durvalina Menezes | Hanh Vu |
| John Frisch | Stephanie Mispagel | Alicia Walters |
| Claudia Fuentez | Elena Monico | John Weber |
| Mike Garibay | Linda Moore | Michele Willson |
| Lillian Gibson | Agnes Motley | Marcie Willson |
| Jose Gonzales, Jr. | Marie Moya | Mike Winchester |
| Marisela Gonzalez | Susan Navarrete | Jim Wood |
| Lois Gorman | Ramon Navarro, Jr. | Linda Yipp |

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

LIFE TEEN

Now

Bible Studies

Want to grow deeper in the study of Scripture? We meet on Mondays at 7pm in the Youth Ministry Office and study the following Sunday's Mass readings. Hope to see you there!

LIFE TEEN

Thu 7:00 PM

Welcome Freshman Life Night

Calling all high school freshman! Come meet your Life Teen core team, get to know some other Catholic freshman, and hear a message on how to navigate faith & high school. August 29th after the 5pm Mass.

CONFIRMATION

WED 6:00 PM

Registration For Confirmation Is Now Open!

If you would like to register your teenager for the 2021-2022 Confirmation year, Please visit STMIRVINEYM.ORG to register.



R.E.P. CORNER



REP Registration News

We are so excited that REP is returning to in person classes this

Fall, and registration is **NOW OPEN!!**

Please visit: rep.stmirvine.org to

register your students in Grades K-8.

Please contact the REP Office with any questions.



Volunteers Needed for 2021/2022

We are recruiting teachers, substitute teachers and parent volunteers for the upcoming school year.

For more info on sharing the love of our faith with the young people of our parish, please contact the REP office at (949) 551-8029.



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



The Library Corner

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time



The St Thomas More Parish Library staff would like to wish all our parishioners a Happy 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time. The Parish Library will be open today from 9:00am-12:00pm.

Check out this powerful book of eleven testimonies of former evangelicals who converted to the Catholic faith.

The book is titled, 'Surprised by Truth', and was written by author and radio host, Patrick Madrid. These stories are prayerful and heavy on doctrine. They are scriptural witnesses of people who discovered that what they had once thought was the most unbiblical church, is in reality, the Church of the Bible, the Catholic Church, One Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Faith.



Considering whether to join the Catholic Community?
 Just want to know what it is about from an adult perspective?
 Baptized Catholic but not yet Confirmed even though you are an adult?

The parish will offer a series of gatherings to explore our Catholic faith in an adult perspective.

These gatherings focus on the needs of the following groups of people:

- Those wishing to prepare themselves to make an adult choice whether to become a Catholic Christian via Baptism.
- Those who have been baptized as a Catholic or baptized as a member of another denomination and wish to prepare themselves for complete initiation into the Catholic Church through Confirmation and/or First Communion.
- Those Baptized and/or Confirmed as a child but not educated as an adult in Catholic Christianity.
- Those wishing to just find out more about Catholicism from an adult perspective, whether one is already a Catholic or not.

**Our first gathering will be on
 Sunday, September 12th at 7:30 PM
 In the Parish Hall**

The first meeting will be focused on organization determining our future meeting days and times.

For more information, please call **Mike Michalek at 949-551-2304.**

If you cannot make the organization meeting, please call or email Mike at michalekm@sprintmail.com to let him know when you are available to attend the sessions.



When Women Pray
 11th Annual
 Prayer Breakfast



October 16, 2021
 8am - 1pm
 St. Thomas More Parish

www.whenwomenpraystm.org

SAVE THE DATE!

When Women Pray invites you
 to our 11th Annual Prayer Breakfast on

October 16, 2021

Join us for an inspiring, faith-filled morning
 of prayer, food, and fellowship!



A BIBLICAL WALK THROUGH
THE MASS

EDWARD SRI

NEW BIBLE STUDY BEGINNING AUGUST 21st!
 Discover (or Rediscover) the Beauty and Depth of the Mass

The Mass is nothing short of amazing. Through it, we encounter God in the most intimate way possible as we hear him speak to us in the Liturgy of the Word and as we receive him Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Holy Eucharist. In his video-based study *A Biblical Walk Through the Mass*, Dr. Edward Sri explores the roots of the words and gestures we experience at Mass and explains their profound significance. This fascinating tour of the Mass will renew your faith and deepen your love for and devotion to the Holy Eucharist. Join us for *A Biblical Walk Through the Mass*, our brand new Saturday Bible Study. Participants will view a video during the week and meet via Zoom every Saturday morning at 9AM beginning Saturday, August 21st for a lively group discussion and fellowship. To register, contact *Deacon Tony at tpat7747@gmail.com*

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11

MEMORIAL MASS AND CEREMONY

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

8:00 AM

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH



REMEMBERING ALL THOSE WE LOST
HONORING OUR FIRST RESPONDERS



FEAST OF FAITH Come, Spirit!

The presider at the Eucharist can choose from among a number of different Eucharistic Prayers, all of which follow a similar pattern. Almost always, they begin with an epiclesis, a Greek word that means “invocation upon” or “calling over here.” At this moment in the prayer, the priest calls down the Holy Spirit upon the gifts of bread and wine that we have brought to the altar: “Father, we bring you these gifts. We ask you to make them holy by the power of your Spirit, that they may become the body and blood of your Son” (Eucharistic Prayer III). The words of the prayer are accompanied by the ritual gesture of the laying on of hands, the ancient sign of the gift of the Spirit, which is also used in most sacramental celebrations, from the rite of confirmation to the ordination of deacons, priests, and bishops. Liturgists sometimes call this first epiclesis the epiclesis of consecration. Later in the Eucharistic Prayer, there will be another epiclesis, the epiclesis of communion, as the priest asks that the Holy Spirit be sent upon us to transform us. “Grant that we, who are nourished by his body and blood, may be filled with his Holy Spirit, and become one body, one spirit in Christ” (Eucharistic Prayer III).

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

Eucharistic Adoration

EVERY FRIDAY

6:00PM TO 7:00PM

24 HOUR ADORATION ON
THE 23RD THIS MONTH

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open for individual, private prayer

Monday-Friday

7:00am to 5:00pm

Saturday & Sunday

7:00am to 6:00pm

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- Deacon Steve Greco
President, Spirit Filled Hearts Ministry


As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord

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SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: St. Rose of Lima
Tuesday: St. Bartholomew
Wednesday: St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz
Friday: St. Monica
Saturday: St. Augustine

saint snippets



How wonderful is God's grace! How beautiful and precious! In it are hidden treasures and joys!

St. Rose of Lima
16th-century Peruvian who was admired for her beauty but chose not to marry in order to devote her life entirely to God and the poor
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August 23

The Marriage Course from St. Vincent de Paul Church is for married couples seeking practical support to stay connected. The seven-part series starts on Sept. 7, and meets weekly on Zoom: Tuesday evenings from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. through Oct. 19.

THE MARRIAGE COURSE

FROM ALPHA



<http://svdphb.org/the-marriage-course/>
or call (714) 697-5659

Ways to Give to STM:

- Secure e-giving on our website: www.stmirvine.org
- In basket at Mass 
- Mail your check or drop it off in our parish lobby 
- Use your smartphone via GivePlus app (Vanco) 
- Donate stock, life insurance or retirement plans 
- Employer Matching Gifts 
- Amazon Smile will donate 0.5% of the eligible purchases to STM!

Thank you for your continued support!

ST. THOMAS MORE MINISTRIES

Liturgy Support

Altar Servers	Tina Le	(7) 356-7607
Eucharist to the Homebound	Fran Necikowski	(7) 505-4816
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Jerry Donaldson	(9) 552-5485
Lectors	Tara Reynaud	(7) 925-9992
Music Director, Including Wedding Music	Keith Rattay	(9) 551-8601
Ushers	Steve Luchetta	(9) 733-1192

Sacraments

Baptism Coordinator	Windy Lozano	(9) 551-8601
Confirmation	Abraham Villela	(9) 551-8602
First Communion	Barbara Catiller	(9) 551-8029
First Reconciliation	Barbara Catiller	(9) 551-8029
Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)	Michael Michalek	(9) 551-2304
Marriage Case Support	Michael Michalek	(9) 551-2304
	Mary Patronite	(9) 551-8601
Marriage Encounter	Jim & Cheryl Skudlarski	(9) 551-9156
Marriage In The Lord	Meredith & Keith Rattay	(9) 559-6464
Wedding Coordinator		

Service

Bereavement	Rosie Muñoz	(9) 551-8601
Children's Homeless Lunch Ministry	Kim Le	(9) 551-8601
Chinese Community	Deacon Leonard Sun	(7) 932-1689
Corazon	Norma Jean Womack	(9) 559-5639
Filipino Community	Charlie Torres	(9) 551-8601
Hispanic Ministry	Frank Ornelas (9) 857-9044	Patty Trujillo (7) 270-5073
Homeless Lunch Ministry	Margaret Cunningham	(7) 552-8711
Knights of Columbus Council #13111	Ed Francis	(858) 229-2490
Respect Life	Chris Gonzales	(9) 551-8601
STM Veterans	Sgt. Bob Kohler	(9) 552-1895
St. Vincent de Paul	Bill Chacon	(9) 331-1020
Vietnamese Ministry	Huan Le	(7) 261-9893
Young Ladies Institute	Mary O'Leary	(9) 305-6810

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	(9) 551-8601
Parish Business Manager	Stephanie Miller	(9) 551-8601
Parish Office Manager	Lisa Bergler	(9) 551-8601
Welcoming Committee	Vince Salico	(7) 389-7726

Spiritual Development

Adult Faith Formation / Bible Study	Barbara Catiller	(9) 551-8029
Life Teen – High School & Young Adults	Abraham Villela	(9) 551-8602
Religious Education	Barbara Catiller	(9) 551-8029
Christ Renews His Parish	Tony Patronite	(9) 307-6215
Cursillo and When Women Pray	Susan Navarrete	(9) 551-8601
Legion of Mary	Linda Hughes	(9) 559-1124
Library	Sam & Diana Adams	(7) 321-2405
Spanish Bible Study	Teresa LeMire	(7) 832-1770

If you are feeling called to serve in one or more of our ministries, please send an email with your contact information to: serve@stmirvine.org

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AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSEHOLD,
WE WILL SERVE THE LORD.

JOSHUA 24:15

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 22, 2021

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Photo: Mosaic of the Twelve Tribes of Israel, Caesars Boulevard, Jerusalem. Imagecraft/Adobe Stock

WHOM SHOULD WE FOLLOW?

Today's Gospel is the conclusion of the Bread of Life discourse in John. After Jesus' continued insistence that he is the Bread of Life come down from heaven, and that his words are "Spirit and life," most of his disciples drift away. The Twelve, however, affirm their faith in Jesus, whom Simon Peter professes to "have the words of eternal life." In the first reading, Joshua and the Israelites are preparing to enter the Promised Land, and Joshua asks the people to decide which god they will follow, the LORD their God, or the gods of neighboring peoples. The Responsorial Psalm features Psalm 34, the "taste and see" psalm, that reflects the kinds of struggles the Israelites faced during their sojourn in the wilderness. In the second reading, Paul gives counsel for maintaining domestic peace and happiness.

CROSSROADS IN LIFE, THEN AND NOW

Sometimes in life we find ourselves at a crossroads, faced with an existential choice that will alter the course of our life. We are aware, at these moments, just how significant our choice will be and that there will be no going back.

In both the first reading and the Gospel we see such moments calling people to make such choices. Which god will the Israelites follow? Joshua, their leader after Moses, knows that the area around the Promised Land is occupied by other peoples, with other gods. Perhaps remembering how, after Moses had gone up Mount Sinai, the Israelites set up a golden calf to worship, Joshua worries that they may again be susceptible to such attractions. He is asking them for a commitment, and proclaims, "As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

CAN WE STAY WITH JESUS?

The people who were frenetically following Jesus, crossing the lake twice to pursue him, eating the bread he miraculously provided, are now puzzled by Jesus proclaiming himself as "the bread of life," and they are incredulous. They can go with him no farther, so they gradually drift away. The Twelve, however, stay with Jesus. What else could they do? Who else offers such a profound vision of human life? Peter expresses it well: "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."

Not all of our life's crossroads involve our faith, but some do. Perhaps there is someone in your parish who chose to become Catholic and is now alienated from their family; someone who is unhappy with a new pastor and wondering about looking for a different parish; someone who was especially distressed by the clergy sex abuse and prayed long and hard before deciding that she needed her parish to get through it. There may be many in your parish facing such choices, and they need our support and our prayers. In the meantime, we can hope that someday they will again experience Jesus as the Holy One of God, offering them words of eternal life.

TODAY'S READINGS

Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b
Psalm 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21
Ephesians 5:21-32 [2a, 25-32]
John 6:60-69