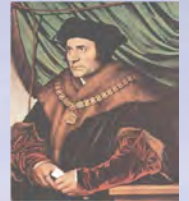




SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

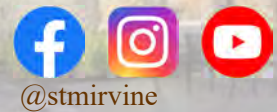
If the 22nd falls on a Saturday, then Adoration will be on Friday.

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: 949-344-2801



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

Pastor

Parochial Vicar

Parochial Vicar Emeritus

Weekend Assistants

Deacons

Founding Pastor

Rev. Eugene J. Lee

Rev. Kiet Ta

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

Deacon Bernie & Mrs. Pam Ocampo

†Rev. John E. Janze

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

**SECOND
SUNDAY OF**

Advent



DECEMBER 4, 2022


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**John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying,
“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”**

MATTHEW 3:1



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



Mass Times:
Wednesday, December 7th
Vigil Mass: 7:00 PM

Thursday, December 8th
8:00 AM
5:00 PM
7:00 PM (multi-lingual)


Holy Day of Obligation



Our Lady of Guadalupe
Misa de Las Mañanitas

Monday, December 12th
@6:00 a.m.


Followed by a reception in the multipurpose room.
Por favor traiga un platillo para compartir.




Join and celebrate with the
St. Thomas More Filipino Ministry

Simbang Gabi

Adoration 6PM
 Mass 7:30PM
 Reception & Festivities 8:30PM



Sign up for volunteer, monetary
 and dessert donations




St. Thomas More Catholic Church
 51 Market Ave, Irvine 92602


MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 12/3	4:00pm 6:00pm	Pro Populo †Cleo Schulte
Sunday 12/4	8:00am	Baby Julian Prosinski Anna Canh Nguyen Carter Lo Braden Escota †Brian Meek †Philip Anthony Tran †Julieta Santiago †Dervida Dequiroz †Pete & Lola Lujan †Floyd & Carmen Kemmesat †Frank Vo †Anita Oesterreich †Claudio Bedoya †Teresa Lee
Monday 12/5	8:00am	Rachel Cinco & Family
Tuesday 12/6	8:00am	†Edward Andrade
Wednesday 12/7	8:00am 7:00pm	Natalie Jensen Tasha Thuy Nguyen
Thursday 12/8	8:00am 5:00pm 7:00pm	Fr Angelus Echeverry Robert Wills Anthony & Amapola Cruz
Friday 12/9	8:00am	Craig Regener
Saturday 12/10	8:00am	Baby Johanna Harris Lil David Patino †Patricia & Frank Fowler

Welcome to God's Family



Leonardo Alano
 Aleene Calaycay
 Aleyah Calaycay
 Alenna Calaycay
 Lena Domingo




**BE AN ANGEL
 THIS CHRISTMAS**

We again have a large number of families who will be unable to experience and enjoy a traditional Christmas this year. Organizations that we will support with toys, bikes and gift cards include Catholic Charities of OC, STM St. Vincent de Paul, USMC/USN at Camp Pendleton, and other local charities. The moms and premature babies of Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem will also benefit from your generosity.

STM's 2022 Angel Tree will be adorned with "gift tag" angel ornaments on

December 3rd & 4th.

We hope you will participate and help to provide a more prayerful and joyful Christmas to others in need.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — He shall bring justice for the afflicted; the earth shall overflow with the knowledge of the LORD (Isaiah 11:1-10).

Psalm — Peace and justice will come in the day of the Lord (Psalm 72).

Second Reading — Glorify God by living in harmony with one another, welcoming each other as Christ welcomed you (Romans 15:4-9).

Gospel — Produce good fruit worthy of your baptism; repent, for the reign of God is near (Matthew 3:1-12).



We will begin at 1:00pm by "knocking" on the St. Thomas More Parish Hall doors reenacting Mary and Joseph's journey. *Empezaremos a las 1:00pm con pedir posada en las puertas del salón parroquial.*

Sunday, December 18th
1:00 PM Spanish - English Mass

Light food and piñatas following Mass. *Comida ligera y piñatas después de la Misa.* Please bring a dish to share.

Second Collection
This Weekend
Retirement Fund for Religious



Collections and Expenses 11-14-22 to 11-27-22 (2 weeks)

	Collection	E-Giving	Total
Sunday Collection	\$41,954	\$19,770	\$61,724
Maintenance Fund	\$422	\$839	\$1,261
Other income	\$10,168	\$2,737	\$12,905
Total income	\$52,544	\$23,346	\$75,891

Regular Expenses	\$44,833
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Believe & Grow Capital Campaign	\$28,813	\$14,854	\$43,667
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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, Maintenance 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!

The International Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima



at St. Thomas More
Mon, Dec. 5th &
Tues, Dec. 6th
8:30am to 9:00pm

There will be a special presentation on Monday from 7:00pm to 7:30pm by Patrick Sabat, custodian of the statue.

All are welcome to come to pray inside the church throughout the day!

Scan the QR code to sign up!



Rest in the Love of Christ

Rosalia McDougall



PLEASE PRAY FOR HEALING



Flory Aguilar
Julie Boxley
Carole Caplett
Marietta Charbonneau
Beata Durdovic
Kathy Ellis
Merrie French
Marco Gama
Susie Giannantonio
Alina Gram
Tina Halberg
CJ Hassett
Julissa Huerta
Brooke Huismans
Sharon Jones
Natalia Julian
Ty Vivian Knisely
Richard & Elizabeth Kulas
Kevin Lee
Patrick Lee
Kathy Meals
Shella Arciaga Mercado

Jim Miller
Elena Monico
Ernie Natividad
Susan Nakagama
Karen Norton
Cathal O'Regan
Deacon Tony Patronite
Gerald Pilkington
George Quitariano
Paula Jane Ramirez
Donna Rohrer
Eileen Rossi
Ann Rupp
Sr. Jeanne D'Arc Salinger, R.S.M.
Norma Santiago
Jack Scharff
Susan Shadley
Cheryl Skudlarski
Jesus Villanueva
Raymund Villanueva
Roger Wells
Michele Wills

Please email bulletin@stmirvine.org to add a name. Names will be included for one month, if requested.



CONFIRMATION

WED 7PM

Our New Confirmation Administrative Assistant

Please welcome our new Confirmation Administrative Assistant, Hayley Moore. If you have any questions regarding Confirmation, please email Confirmation@stmirvine.org and she will get back to you! Welcome aboard!

YOUTH MINISTRY

SAT 8AM

Thanksgiving Outreach

STM.YTH is partnering up with our Homeless Lunch Ministry to collect \$20.00 gift cards to any Grocery store to help include them in 50 Thanksgiving Baskets we will be donating. Please turn in the gift cards to the YTH office before Dec 9.

CONFIRMATION

WED 7PM

Confirmation Class Schedule for 2022

C1: Wed 12/14, Wed 1/18, Wed 2/11

C2: Wed 12/7, Wed 1/11, Wed 1/25

YOUTH MINISTRY

SUN 6PM

YTH NITE

Join us on Sunday (12/4) for YTH NITE! YTH NITES are for High School teens to come together in community, have dinner, and learn how to apply their Catholic faith to their lives. We can't wait to see you! YTH NITE begins after the 5PM Mass and ends at 8:00PM!



R.E.P. CORNER



Sock It To Me Weekend was a great success! Our Middle School students collected hundreds of socks and over \$1,000 to benefit Isaiah House! Thank you to all that contributed in spreading the warmth of our STM family to our community these Advent & Christmas seasons.



ATTENTION FAMILIES!!



Please join us Saturday, December 17th at 8 PM for *The Prince of Peace, A Grandmother's Reflection*, a very special Advent evening of music, prayer & reflection on the Nativity of Jesus. So, bring the family and spend some time preparing for the coming of the Baby Jesus at Christmas.



CIRCLE OF GRACE Safe Environment Training

Thank you to all of the students, parents and teachers that attended the Circle of Grace Safe Environment Training this past week. We learned a lot together! Parents please don't forget to talk with your students about their trusted adults.

Library



The Parish Library will be open today from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Have you ever thought there was a connection between the last seven words of Christ as He died on the Cross and the Beatitudes from Christ's Sermon on the Mount? The STM Parish Library has an excellent book on this topic entitled, *'The Cross and the Beatitudes'*, authored by Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen. Archbishop Sheen writes about these events as if they were happening right at this minute and how Jesus preached the Beatitudes at the Sermon on the Mount, then lived them at Golgotha. His link of the Seven Last Words on the Cross to the eight beatitudes is valid because the eighth Beatitude, according to St. Thomas Aquinas, 'is a confirmation and a declaration of all those that precede'. As an example, the Beatitude, 'Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy', correlates to Christ saying, 'This day you shall be with me in Paradise'. These connections are why Heaven rejoices over the lost souls being saved.

Thursday
DEC. 8

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

(Holy Day of Obligation)

7 PM (Wednesday Vigil) | 8 AM | 5 PM | 7 PM (Multi-Lingual)



Monday, Dec. 12 | 6 AM (Span/Eng)

Las Mananitas a la Virgen de Guadalupe

Fri, Dec. 16 | 6 PM Adoration | 7:30 PM Mass & Festivities Filipino Simbang Gabi

Sunday, Dec. 18 | 1 PM (Span/Eng) Misa de Las Posadas / Mass of the Inn



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS POINSETTIA SALE

Saturday, Dec. 10 & Sunday, Dec. 11

VIETNAMESE ADVENT RETREAT

Saturday, Dec. 10 at 5PM

WHEN WOMEN PRAY HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

Sunday, Dec. 11 from 9AM - 3PM



Tuesday
DEC. 13
7 PM

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

"Forgive Our Trespasses

As We Forgive Those Who Trespass Against Us."

Saturday, Dec. 3 | After 4 PM Mass Confession in Vietnamese

Mon. to Fri., Dec. 12-16 | 7 PM Confession in the Evening

Mon. to Fri., Dec. 19-23 | 8:30 AM Confession in the Morning

Christmas Musical

The Prince of Peace

- *A Grandmother's Reflection* -

**AN ADVENT NIGHT OF MUSIC, PRAYER & REFLECTION
ON THE STORY OF THE NATIVITY OF JESUS**

8 PM

Saturday Dec. 17

PARISH HALL





The Society of St. Vincent de Paul at St. Thomas More



**Upcoming Food Pantry Dates:
December 6th & 20th**

For volunteer opportunities, please contact us at volunteer@svdpstm.org.
Donations are greatly appreciated and can be made through the E-GIVING link on the Saint Thomas More Website at www.stmirvine.org

YLI See's Candy Christmas Fundraiser

Candy will be available for pick-up!



Dec. 10th-11th (after all Masses)
&
Dec. 18th (8am to Noon)



Join us for the **Christmas Novena** that will be recited after the 8am daily Mass (except Sunday) starting on December 16 and ending on December 24. Brochures with the Christmas Novena are available at the entrance of the Church. The Novena can be prayed at home.

*Come to me, all you who labor
and are burdened,
and I will give you rest.*

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
EVERY FRIDAY AT 6PM TO 7PM
24 HOUR ADORATION IS ON THE 22ND OF EACH MONTH

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

New for 2023

Help and encouragement after the death of a loved one

GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life. We know it hurts, and we want to help.

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OR

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St. Thomas More Parish
Register at GriefShare.org



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Contact the parish office or email:

financialpeace@stmirvine.org

To register for class: fpu.com/1156313



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If you are shopping on Amazon, please consider ordering through Amazon Smile. STM is a designated charity. We are listed as St Thomas More Parish. Make sure it's the Irvine, CA location. If you don't have an Amazon Smile account, it's easy to set one up. Instructions are online or call the office if you need assistance. So far in 2022 we have received \$782.02. Thank you for your support!

Do you like decorating?

The Art & Environment Ministry would like to invite the parish community to help decorate the church for Christmas on Saturday, Dec. 24th at 9:30 am.



sunday
DECEMBER 11, 2022

9AM - 3PM

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

CATHOLIC CORNER



Then the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
The calf and the young lion shall browse together,
with a little child to guide them.

Isaiah 11:16



PEACE

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
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	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
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
Children's Homeless Lunch Ministry	Kim Lee	(7) 293-8987
Chinese Community	Deacon Leonard Sun	(7) 932-1689
Filipino Community	Mernie Empalmado	(9) 307-7479
Grief Share Ministry	K.C. Riley	(7) 875-8126
Hispanic Ministry	Frank Ornelas & Victor Cota	(9) 857-9044
Homeless Lunch Ministry	Jessica Silva	(9) 294-2875
Knights of Columbus Council #13111	Mike Smith	(9) 300-1913
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	Cathy Wachtel	(9) 857-5037

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	Abraham Villela	(9) 551-8602
More Moms	Krystal Padley	(7) 345-2598
Religious Education	Barbara Catiller	(9) 551-8029
Spanish Bible Study	Teresa LeMire	(7) 832-1770
When Women Pray	Paula Hines	(7) 746-1802

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SECOND SUNDAY OF

Advent

DECEMBER 4, 2022

John the Baptist appeared,
preaching in the desert of Judea and saying,
“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”

MATTHEW 3:1

NEW LIFE

In our scripture translations, word choices matter. When today’s first reading tells us that a “stump” will bring forth a new shoot, it’s Isaiah’s way of telling us that God’s miraculous power is at work. Seeds bring forth shoots. Even buried roots can bring forth shoots. But a stump? When we look at a stump, essentially we are seeing the corpse of what used to be a tree. Mortal eyes look and see death, but divine eyes look and see new life. And what a life the Spirit of God will bring forth from this stump! A life filled with wisdom, understanding, counsel, strength, knowledge, and fear of the Lord—the life that we name “Jesus.” How fitting it is that we will also look upon the wood Calvary’s cross—a tree of death—and behold that the Spirit of God has turned that tree into a Tree of Life!

NAME CALLING

We often change our tone of voice and vocabulary when we really want to get somebody’s attention. Parents will add a middle name to indicate a child is in trouble (a middle and last name when the child is really in trouble). Change of tone and words invites attention, demanding a response. Today John the Baptist does a bit of name-calling: “You brood of vipers!” Even for someone like John, who regularly used potent vocabulary, this way of addressing the holy men—the Pharisees and Sadducees—this level of name-calling stands out. Snakes were commonly understood as a representation of evil, and a poisonous snake in the ancient world held the power of life and death, as the holy men thought they did. Instead of thinking about their own power, John tells them to produce good fruit. We still get ourselves in trouble today when we think that we truly hold any type of power over others, when it’s a power that belongs only to God.

EMBRACING CHANGE

Words like John’s might cause fear in us, or may hold us back, hesitant. Words like these can also invite us to change our lives. When we do so, we open ourselves to a core virtue of the Advent season: hope. Changing our lives can also open us up to a more vigorous presence of the gifts of the Holy Spirit—wisdom, understanding, counsel, strength, knowledge, and fear of the Lord—named in Isaiah today. Recall that it was in that very Spirit we were named for Christ at Baptism. Open your ears and heart to the voice of God, who knows the name given to you on that day. Respond not out of fear, but in love, to the ways that God is calling to you today; calling you to change what needs to be changed, and to welcome Christ today, as you will once again on Christmas day.

TODAY’S READINGS

Isaiah 11:1–10
Psalm 72:1–2, 7–8, 12–13, 17
Romans 15:4–9
Matthew 3:1–12