



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

December 24, 2023

4th
Sunday
OF ADVENT





Rest in Peace 

Msgr. Colm Conlon
Mary Jane Graff
Margaret Madrid
Shirley Mendoza



Collections and Expenses

12/4/2023– 12/10/2023

	Collection	E-Giving	Total
Sunday Collection	\$20,432	\$12,920	\$33,352
Maintenance Fund	\$1,490	\$145	\$1,635
Other income	\$5,972	\$1,735	\$7,707
Retired Religious	\$11,496	\$310	\$11,806
Immaculate Conception	\$5,856	\$345	\$6,201
Total income	\$45,247	\$15,455	\$60,702
	Regular Expenses		\$57,518
Believe & Grow Capital Campaign	\$10,095	\$2,825	\$12,920

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!

MASS INTENTIONS

- 
- Sat 12/23 4:00pm Long, Phuong and Family
6:00pm †Viviana Lui
8:00pm Hai & Nga Family
 - Sun 12/24 8:00am Pro Populo
9:30am †Jovita Lugtu Manugas
11:30am †Ken Freund
4:00pm †John R. Schulte and Family
6:00pm Jessie Cuevas and Family
8:00pm †Teresa Truong and Maria Tran
 - Mon 12/25 12:00am †Frank & Lottie Meronk
8:00am Teri Mostero
10:00am Majkoski-Nguyen Family
12:00pm Mars Del Villar
 - Tues 12/26 8:00am Ron Mostero
 - Wed 12/27 8:00am †Gabby Paz
 - Thurs 12/28 8:00am Rachel & Nik Cinco-Hedde & Family
 - Friday 12/29 8:00am †Andrea Maciel
 - Sat 12/30 8:00am
Alan LeMire & Heather Perrier †Richard & Beatrice Lopez
Andrew Chan Family †Gerry & Helen Lozano
Michael Navarro †Luis Eduardo Caceres
Christopher Maggetti †Lourdes Guadamor
†Enrique Bautista

PRAYERS FOR HEALING

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

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

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

SEASON *of* CHRISTMAS



My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

During this Advent and Christmas season, I ask for all to join with the Blessed Mother Mary and ponder the most profound mystery and reality that the child who was incarnate in her womb, who was born in Bethlehem is the SAME Lord Jesus who we receive in the Holy Eucharist. Think about it! If this is indeed true, and you were to believe it more deeply, then how would this affect the way in which you approach the Mass? How would this affect your whole life?? My favorite Bible verse comes to mind: "Therefore, we who are receiving the unshakable kingdom should have gratitude, with which we should offer worship pleasing to God in reverence and awe" (Hebrews 12:28).

When Elizabeth encountered Jesus in the womb of Mary, when the angels announced his birth, when the shepherds and the magi came to visit the Christ-child, it was reverence and awe that exuded from them. And in many ways, their encounter was worship. Let us learn from them and be inspired by their faith and pray that we can approach the Holy Eucharist at Mass with the same reverence and awe. Jesus Christ came from the highest heights of heaven to the dusty streets of Israel ultimately to be with us in the Holy Eucharist so that we can truly have the promises of Christmas: hope, love, joy, and peace. We must be willing to make him the King in our lives, to conform our ways to his ways, to obey his will and to offer proper worship. Our devotion to the Holy Eucharist is the sure way to do all that.

Christmas then is all about us being able to receive him and to be with him in the Holy Eucharist. Christmas is all about CHRIST'S MASS which we now have the utmost privilege of celebrating every Sunday and every day!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Eugene Lee
Fr. Eugene Lee.

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

CHRISTMAS VIGIL

Sunday, December 24th

4:00pm

6:00pm

8:00pm (Vietnamese/English)

CHRISTMAS DAY

Monday, December 25th

12:00am (midnight)

8:00am

10:00am

12:00pm (Spanish/English)

2:00pm (Chinese/English)

CELEBRATIONS WITHIN CHRISTMAS

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
Sunday, December 31st

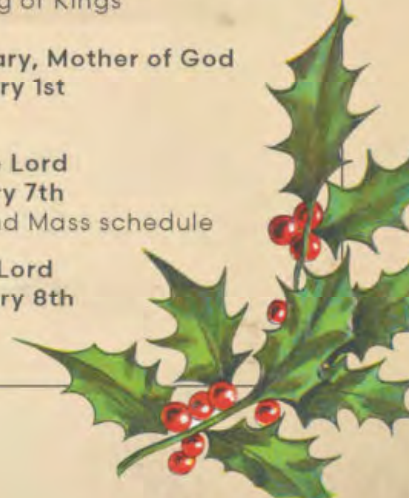
Regular weekend Mass schedule

10:30pm Mass + Adoration Countdown
to the New Year in silence while
adoring the King of Kings

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
Monday, January 1st
9:00am Mass

Epiphany of the Lord
Sunday, January 7th
Regular weekend Mass schedule

Baptism of the Lord
Monday, January 8th
8:00am Mass



STM CONFIRMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY

Merry Christmas from the STM Youth Ministry Office! See you in 2024!

Upcoming Confirmation Classes

C1 Classes: Jan 10 & 24

C2 Classes: Jan 17 & Jan 31

Confirmation classes will be on Christmas break from 12/18 –1/5. Class meetings will resume 1/10 with Confirmation 1.

Upcoming YTH Nites at 6PM

All High School Teens are invited to our High School YTH NITES. The Sunday night gatherings are for teens to come and learn about how to apply their faith in their daily life.

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.



R.E.P. CORNER



MERRY CHRISTMAS



The REP staff wishes all of our students, teachers and families a happy, holy and joyous Christmas! See you all in 2024!



Religious Education classes & the REP Office will be on break for the Christmas holidays from December 21st through January 8th.



We look forward to seeing you and your family in the new year!

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



The Library Corner

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



This is our time for the preparation of Christmas, a most important day for the Catholic Church. As Catholics, we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who is the culmination of the mystery of the incarnation where God became flesh and dwelt among us. Christmas draws the hearts of every child of God towards the grace of His divine love. In the manger, the heavenly Baby, became a creature, like ourselves, so that He could make us sharers in His divine nature. Christ came on Earth to bring us to Heaven. As Catholics, know that the person, and the power, of the omnipotent Creator and sustainer of the universe has emptied himself, taking on the form of a slave because of His love for us. Have you humbled yourself and said Yes to God's plan for you? Your answer hangs in eternity.

Have a Merry Christmas!

..... **COMING SOON**

Saint Thomas More Church's

BIBLE READING MARATHON

In celebration of the **SUNDAY OF THE WORD** of God on
January 21, 2024
we will be reading the whole Bible **NONSTOP**, day and night!

*"Remain in my
Word."
John 8:31*



- ◇ BEGINS Jan 20 (Sat) at 4:00 pm. ◇
- ◇ Estimated 80 hours to complete! ◇
- ◇ Reading will take place in the parish LIBRARY ◇
- ◇ The entire reading will be livestreamed at stmirvine.org. ◇

SIGN UP FOR YOUR SPOT!

FOR FULL DETAILS & TO SIGNUP TO
TAKE YOUR SLOT GO TO OUR PARISH WEBSITE
AT STMIRVINE.ORG OR SCAN THIS QR CODE:



Gospelize Your Story

Organized by STM'S Small Faith Communities Ministry
and the Devotional Life Committee.


For questions contact: devotional@stmirvine.org.



Merry Christmas from St. Thomas More clergy and staff



The offices will be closed for Christmas break: Dec 24 – Jan 1
**If you have an emergency, please call
 (949) 551-8601 ext. 7**



Thank you STM parishioners!
 So many are benefitting from your generosity for a more prayerful and joyous Christmas!

**Catholic Charities of OC
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 STM St. Vincent de Paul
 USMC/USN at Camp Pendleton
 Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem
 and other local charities.**

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Gospelize Your Story

Small Faith Communities
 will be on break starting
 Dec. 10 and will resume Jan. 7, 2024.

Come Gospelize Your Story!




STM SMALL FAITH COMMUNITIES
 WWW.STMIRVINE.ORG/SFC



Joseph of Cupertino Classical Academy (JCCA) is Orange County's first Catholic, classical, hybrid program, combining the strengths of both traditional school and homeschool. The Academy will launch at St. Thomas More Parish in the Fall 2024, offering a full curriculum for students up to grade 10.

Prayer Partners Supporting Others with Prayer



ADVENT SEASON

On 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

Students of JCCA's formative, classical curriculum will benefit from in-class professional instruction three days per week. The other two weekdays will rely on parental involvement and family unity to further the students' academic growth and faith formation.

Visit jccacademy.org to learn more about the Academy's mission and to engage with its leadership.

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

"Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before me; your throne shall stand firm forever." (2 Sm 28:16)

Psalm:

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord. (Ps 89)

Second Reading:

The revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages but now manifested through the prophetic writings and, according to the command of the eternal God, made known to all nations to bring about the obedience of faith. (Rom 16:25-26)

Gospel:

"Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus." (Lk 1:31)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

God's plans are not always what we imagined. Sometimes they make us hesitate. Be like Mary. Say "Yes, Lord" — and God will show you that His imagination is better than yours.

Observances for the week of December 24, 2023

- Sunday:** 4th Sunday of Advent; Christmas Eve
- Monday:** The Nativity of the Lord
- Tuesday:** St. Stephen, First Martyr
- Wednesday:** St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
- Thursday:** The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
- Friday:** St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr
- Next Sunday:** The Holy Family; New Year's Eve



GROWING WITH THE Gospel

CYCLE B

esi COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image:



Christmas Eve • Matthew 1:18-25

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	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
Children's Homeless Lunch Ministry	Kim Lee	(7) 293-8987
Chinese Community	Deacon Leonard Sun	(7) 932-1689
Corazon	Norma Jean Womack	(9) 903-1472
Filipino Community	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	(9) 294-2875
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

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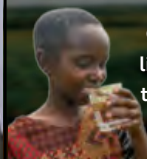
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St. Thomas More Church, Irvine, CA

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Around the Diocese...

FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS, PRO-LIFE ROSARY, PROCESSION AND MASS

at St. John the Baptist in Costa Mesa

THURS., DEC. 28th
7:00 p.m. – Procession
7:30 p.m. – Mass

We will gather at 7:00 p.m. in the courtyard, and our Rosary procession will take place on the parish grounds. Mass will begin at 7:30 p.m., followed by refreshments in the parish hall.



JANUARY, 20th, 2024
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wwme.org

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