



# 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**

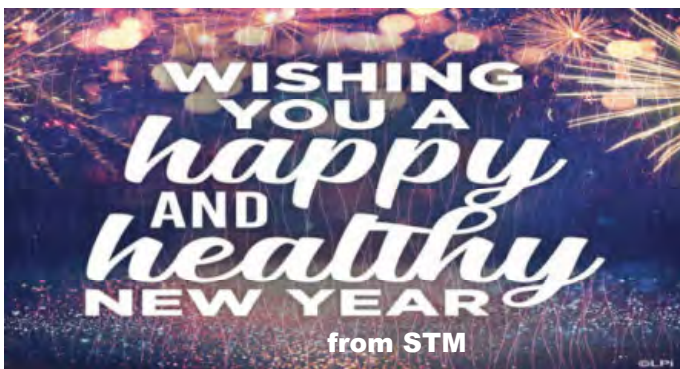
**Saturday: 9:00am-2:00pm**



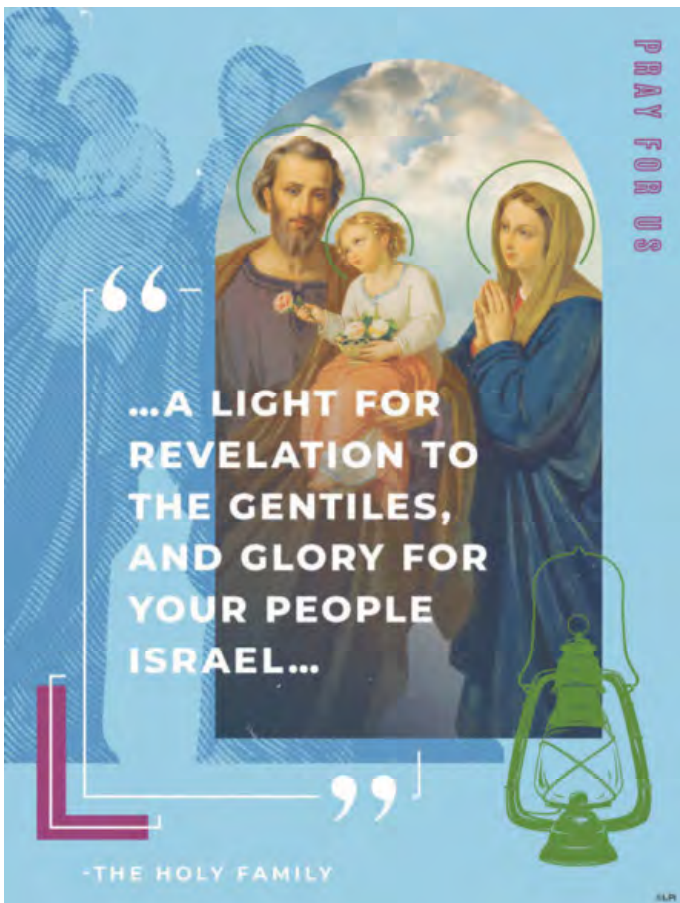
**December 31, 2023**

## THE HOLY FAMILY

The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him. - Lk 2:40



Due to early bulletin deadlines, collections and expenses will be reported later.



# MASS INTENTIONS

- Sat 12/30 4:00pm Joonsik Peter Kang  
6:00pm †Marcelino Zordilla
- Sun 12/31 8:00am The Del Villar Family  
9:30am Pro Populo  
11:30am †Antonio Maralit  
5:00pm †Josefa Bautista
- Mon 1/1 9:00am Thang Le & Thuc-Oanh Vu
- Tues 1/2 8:00am †Matthew Sparks
- Wed 1/3 8:00am Jenny Nguyen
- Thurs 1/4 8:00am †Angel
- Friday 1/5 8:00am †Anna Nguyen
- Sat 1/6 8:00am The Nault Family  
Shawn Thacker  
Ryland Andrade  
Fr Francis  
Emily and Neil Pantig  
Fernleigh Samuel B. Punla  
†Quirino Villanueva  
†Daniel Cabral



## PRAYERS FOR HEALING

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

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.



## CELEBRATIONS WITHIN CHRISTMAS

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

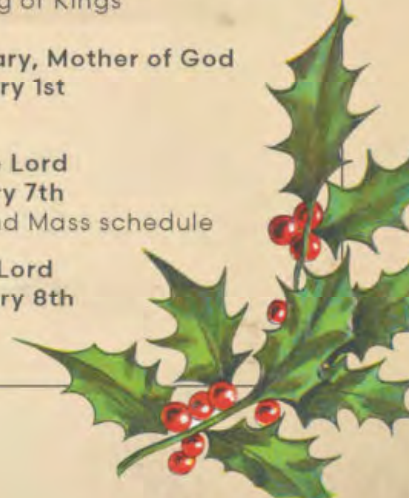
Regular weekend Mass schedule

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

Religious Education classes & the REP Office will be on break for the Christmas holidays



from

December 21<sup>st</sup> through

January 8<sup>th</sup>.



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



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

See you all in 2024!

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



## **The Library Corner**

The STM Parish Library staff would like to wish all our parishioners a Happy Holy Family Sunday. The Parish Library will not be open today.

The Octave of Christmas is celebrated as an eight day feast which begins on Christmas, December 25, and continues to January 1. During this Octave of Christmas, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family; Jesus, Mary and Joseph. This Feast honors the holiest of families who provide a model for all Catholic families. Since the 17th century, Pope Leo XIII recognized and celebrated this feast, and in 1921, Pope Benedict XV made it a part of the General Roman Calendar.

Our family life becomes sanctified when we live the life of the domestic Family Church. God gave us the Sacrament of Marriage as the model to increase the Church through the Catholic family. St. John Chrysostom urged all Catholic families to make each home a 'Family Church' and in so doing, this sanctifies the family unit. Have a Happy New Year.

The STM Library will be sending out emails, in January, to the parishioners who have over-due Books and/or DVDs. Please check for these items and return them to the Library. Thank you.

..... **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](http://stmirvine.org). ◇

## **SIGN UP FOR YOUR SPOT!**

FOR FULL DETAILS & TO SIGNUP TO  
TAKE YOUR SLOT GO TO OUR PARISH WEBSITE  
AT [STMIRVINE.ORG](http://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](mailto: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!

Over \$60,000 donated to those in need to provide a more prayerful and joyous Christmas!

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




**MEN'S RETREAT**

"Finding comfort in the Passion of Christ"

February 9-11, 2024  
Passionist Retreat Center

Reserve your spot by contacting  
Mark Kreyche  
[mgkreyche@gmail.com](mailto:mgkreyche@gmail.com)  
Or scan code register



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- Get closer to God
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- Join Small Faith Community



For more info 

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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

# SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31st

10:30PM VIGIL MASS

Followed by Adoration



Countdown to the New Year  
in silence while adoring  
the King of Kings.



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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.

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](http://jccacademy.org) to learn more  
about the Academy's mission and to  
engage with its leadership.

## WALK FOR LIFE LA

### CELEBRATING THE DIGNITY OF EVERY HUMAN LIFE

Sat, January 20th, 2024



8:00am MASS @ STM

9:00am BUS LEAVES for LA

11:00am KICK - OFF @ OLVERA STREET

1:00pm ONE LIFE FESTIVAL @ LA HISTORICAL PARK

4:00pm BUS RETURNS TO STM

It's about justice for the unborn, 50,000 lives in CA  
and over 5,000 in Orange County each year.

Babies lost have no voice and have no justice without our voice.

## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

God's timing is not always our timing. Sometimes,  
we have to wait years for the answer to our  
prayer. Never despair. Remember that God keeps  
His word.

## VEILING

Distinctly feminine.  
Distinctly prayerful.

SUNDAY,  
February 4th  
10:30 AM  
in the MPR

Join us for a look at this beautiful tradition and explore the history  
and current practices surrounding the choice to wear a chapel veil.

Hear from women who have made a choice to veil in the  
Real Presence of Jesus.

## Observances for the week of December 31, 2023

- Sunday:** The Holy Family; New Year's Eve
- Monday:** Mary, The Holy Mother of God,  
New Year's Day, World Day of Peace
- Tuesday:** Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory  
Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the  
Church
- Wednesday:** The Most Holy Name of Jesus
- Thursday:** St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
- Friday:** St. John Neumann, Bishop
- Saturday:** St. André Bessette, Religious
- Next Sunday:** The Epiphany of the Lord

Happy  
NEW YEAR

## 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

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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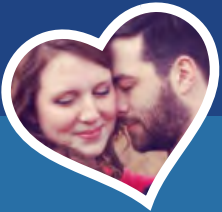
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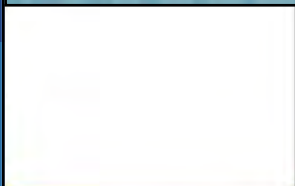
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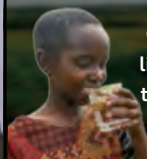
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### Around the Diocese...



## I Want to See God The Joy of Contemplative Life

A walk with St. Elizabeth of the Trinity



Friday, January 13, 2024

8:30 AM - 12 PM in the church

Presented by Dr. Christina Chan

\* Light refreshments in the courtyard



Morning of Recollection – St. Elizabeth of the Trinity's prophetic message of "Let yourselves be loved" is timely and necessary. This is why Pope St. John Paul II, in his homily at her beatification in November 1984, spoke of her as "a brilliant witness to the joy of being rooted and grounded in love." "Letting ourselves be Loved" is allowing God to fill us up with Himself, to become like Himself so that we can offer Him joyfully to the world.

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## HOW TO MAKE YOUR MARRIAGE FLOURISH BY UNDERSTANDING THE CHURCH'S TEACHING

By Fr. Sebastian Walshe, O. Praem



FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2024 7 PM - 9 PM IN QUINN HALL  
\*LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

Whether you are single or in a relationship, understanding church teachings and how it applies to our relationships help us foster a deeper love for one another.

Fr. Sebastian Walshe is a Norbertine Canon of the Abbey of St. Michael in the Diocese of Orange, California, where he is the Dean of Studies and a Professor of philosophy for the seminary program. Fr. Sebastian is a regular guest on Catholic Answers and EWTN. He has also authored several books, including "Understanding Marriage and Family: A Catholic Perspective."

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