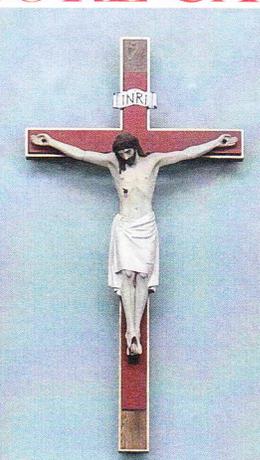
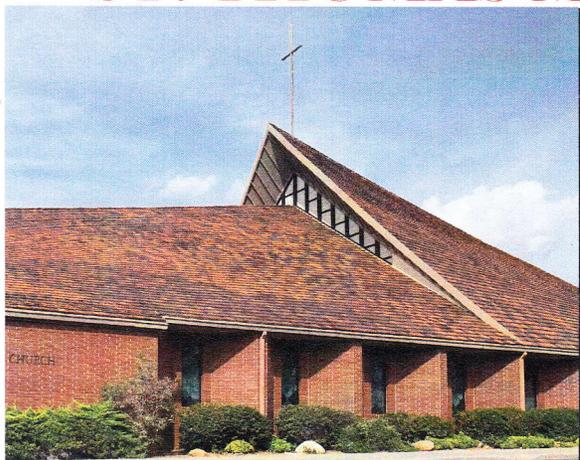


ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH



www.stmparadise.net | 530.877.4501 | Email: office@stmparadise.org

About St. Thomas More

Priest Supvr. Fr Martin J. Ramat
Parish Steward Greg Kidder
Secretary Maresa Kelly
Religious Education Deon Mangan

St. Thomas More Catholic Church
 767 Elliott Rd. Paradise, CA 95969
 Office Hrs: Mon. - Thurs. 9a-2p
 530.877.4501 (Office closed Fri)
Mass: Sunday at Noon
CONFESSION 1st Thursday 5P - 6P
 (Call to schedule an appointment)

Important Dates

28SEP: Grupo de Apoyo Paradise de Mujeres 10A
 29SEP: Wednesday Holy Mass at STM 6p
 01OCT: Divine Mercy Chaplet, STM 10A
 02OCT: Blessing of the Animals, STM, 1030A
03OCT: Crown Rosary 10A w/ Sec. Franciscans
03OCT: Special Mass w/ Order of Malta & Lunch
03OCT: Special STM Guest Speaker after lunch

Sunday Readings

The Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 XXVI Domingo Ordinario
1st Reading Numbers 11:25-29
Psalm 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14
 The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.
 Los mandamientos del Señor alegran el corazón.
2nd Reading James 5:1-6
Gospel Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

REMINDER: WEDNESDAY MASS 6P AT STM!

MEDITATION OF THE DAY

How to Enter into Life

For you were called to freedom, brethren. So says Saint Paul in the letter to the Galatians. God calls us to freedom. But instead of being given to us instantaneously and in full measure, this freedom is built up
Meditation of the Day continues on the next page

SEPTEMBER INTENTIONS of the HOLY FATHER

An Environmentally Sustainable Lifestyle

We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.

Un estilo de vida ambientalmente sostenible

Oramos para que todos tomemos decisiones valientes por un estilo de vida simple y ambientalmente sostenible, regocijándonos en nuestros jóvenes que están decididamente comprometidos con esto.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 26TH

Earl J. Whatcott[†]

Miguel Sr. & Letecia Balladares

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK - LET US PRAY FOR

*Jeanne Jackson
 Pam & Bill Bechtold
 Joanne Smith
 Vincent Mellado
 John Thomas
 Lily Tomkowitz
 Rosemary Peterson*

*Mary McKinnon
 Jeanie Avery
 John Johnson
 Sharon Wilson
 Michael MacPhail
 Gina Kuckler
 Luz Perkins*

This Week's Readings

TWENTY-SIXTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Monday; Sept. 27th SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

1st Reading: Zechariah 8:1-8
 Psalm 102 The Lord will build up Zion again, and appear in all his glory.
 Gospel: Luke 9:46-50

Tuesday; Sept. 28th SAINT WENCESLAUS

1st Reading: Zechariah 8:20-23
 Psalm 87 God is with us.
 Gospel: Luke 9:51-56

Wed.; Sept. 29th SAINTS MICHAEL, GABRIEL & RAPHAEL

1st Reading: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14
 2nd Reading: Revelation 12:7-12ab
 Psalm 138 In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord.
 Gospel: John 1:47-51

Thursday; Sept. 30th SAINT JEROME

1st Reading: Nehemiah 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12
 Ps. 19 The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.
 Gospel: Luke 10:1-12

Friday; October 1st SAINT THÉRÈSE OF THE CHILD JESUS

1st Reading: Baruch 1:15-22
 Psalm 79 For the glory of your name, O Lord, deliver us.
 Gospel: Luke 10:13-16

Saturday; October 2nd THE HOLY GUARDIAN ANGELS

1st Reading: Exodus 23: 20-23
 Psalm 91 The Lord has put angels in charge of you, to guard you in all your ways.
 2nd Reading: Baruch 4:5-12, 27-29
 Psalm 69 The Lord listens to the poor.
 Gospel: 18:1-5, 10

Meditation of the Day continued from front page.

MEDITATION of the DAY: How to Enter into Life

progressively and patiently day by day, by being faithful to God's calls.... As the story in Genesis of creation and the fall makes clear, sin is a rejection of life as God's child, bringing enslavement with it. Through pride, human beings refuse to accept life and happiness from the Father's hands, with confident and loving dependency, preferring to be the source of life for themselves. Suspicions, fears, worries, and inflamed desires are the result. Looking for happiness not to God, but to ourselves, we feverishly seek it in things like riches, pleasure, and fame....

Openness to God's calls frees us from pride. It sweeps aside the attitude of self-sufficiency, the pretense that one is the sole master of one's life. In its place come dependency, availability to another, humility & confident submission. Openness to God's calls helps us escape the pitfalls of desire. God redirects desire toward goods better able to satisfy us than those we lust after. And this openness frees us from fear. By being open to God's calls, the believer receives encouragement and strength that empower him to rise above his fears & break out of the narrow circle of inadequate coping strategies by which people too often attempt to handle fear. When the Pharisees in the Gospels are scandalized at seeing Jesus eat with tax collectors and sinners, Jesus replies: I have not come to call the righteous to repentance but sinners. Here is the infinite mercy of God, who calls us not because of our merits but purely out of love. He does not want us to remain prisoners of our past. He always wants to propose a new future to us, however hesitant we may be. The best way to leave sin and misery behind is not by despairing or blaming ourselves, but by opening up to God's calls that come to us continually, no matter what our situation is. Even the most hardened sinner is called. And the call is a path of salvation for him....

This is the human tragedy: to seek to realize an image of happiness proposed to us by the surrounding culture, without ever finding true happiness.... As Saint Paul says: What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him (1 Cor 2:9). Sorrow and renunciation, struggle and agony are part of the opening up to reality. This is a work in progress, never complete here on earth, that makes possible for us an ever more abundant and fulfilling life. — FATHER JACQUES PHILIPPE

Father Philippe is a French priest, a member of the Community of the Beatitudes, and a renowned spiritual director. / From Called to Life, Neal Carter, Tr. © 2008, Scepter Publishers, Inc. www.scepterpublishers.org.

Excerpt from Magnificat, Meditation of the Day, September 26, 2021.

The next Sacrament of Reconciliation is

Thursday, October 7 at 5p.

Reminder: An appointment is required to be placed on the list! Please note that an exact time will not be provided. We need you to call so that we know who and how many to expect. Get placed on the list by calling the church office at 530.877.4501.

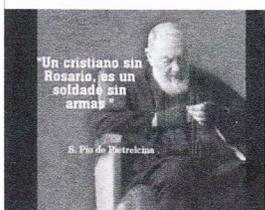
Sacramento de la Reconciliación Esta programado para el jueves 7 de octubre, en STM a las 5 p.m. Favor de llamar a la oficina para ponerlo (a) en la lista 530.877.4501

Septiembre está dedicado a los siete dolores de Nuestra Señora. Esta

devoción data del siglo XII. Se generalizó en el siglo XIV y especialmente en el XV, particularmente en Renania y Flandes, donde surgieron las cofradías de la Madre Dolorosa. Fue en este contexto que se redactaron los primeros formularios litúrgicos en su honor. Un consejo provincial de Mainz en 1423 hizo uso de estos para establecer una "Fiesta de los Dolores de María" en reparación por las profanaciones husitas de sus imágenes.



As we end our Sept. devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows, we may find ourselves once again sinking into hopelessness as we scroll, flip, or turn page after page of devastating world news. Life may seem heavier now, too, with the confusion and uncertainty surrounding the global pandemic. As our hearts vacillate in that enigmatic space between hope and fear, we may find ourselves in a perpetual state of waiting – but for what? For whom?



Señor, Dios. Tú, que has creado todos los pueblos a tu imagen, te adoramos. Elevamos nuestros corazones y nuestras voces hacia Ti. Te pedimos por los países y los pueblos, de donde han huido los refugiados.

Te pedimos por los países de origen de todos los emigrantes, que buscan mejores condiciones de vida, para ellos y para sus familias. Te pedimos por los "extranjeros" que viven en nuestros países, que terminan en los suburbios y en los barrios pobres de las grandes ciudades, donde comparten su vida con los marginados o con los que están sin trabajo.

Te pedimos por todos los que tienen el poder de decidir los acuerdos y las leyes internacionales.

Que miren, no sólo por los intereses de sus propios países, sino que tomen en consideración la situación de los países pobres del mundo.

Te lo pedimos por Cristo Nuestro Señor, que era un refugiado y que ha plantado su tienda entre nosotros. Amen

Are we like the ten wise virgins, or the ten foolish ones? Do we go about our routines attuned to God, always listening in some distant part of our souls for what He is asking of us next? Or do we find ourselves becoming drowsy with worldly affairs, too consumed by what everyone tells us we need to do; what we believe we can control so that we are safe?

The reality is we can never trade safety for fidelity to God. And every one of us comes to a place of reckoning, where we must choose. We have entered troubling times, but there are more troubling times in store. We don't know yet what they are, but we do know this: we can walk with Mary in our grief. Remember the promises told to us by St. Bridget of Sweden, after Our Lady appeared to her and revealed the graces she promised to devotees who prayed to her Sorrowful Heart.

The 7 Promises to Those Who Pray the 7 Sorrows

1. I will grant peace to their families.
2. They will be enlightened about the divine mysteries.
3. I will console them in their pains and I will accompany them in their work.
4. I will give them as much as they ask for as long as it does not oppose the adorable will of my divine Son or the sanctification of their souls.
5. I will defend them in their spiritual battles with the infernal enemy and I will protect them at every instant of their lives.
6. I will visibly help them at the moment of their death, they will see the face of their Mother.
7. I have obtained from my divine Son, that those who propagate this devotion to my tears and dolours, will be taken directly from this earthly life to eternal happiness since all their sins will be forgiven and my Son and I will be their eternal consolation and joy.



During the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, you can visit the Lord in the presence of His most Blessed Sacrament for as short as ten minutes or even less. What is important is that in our Eucharistic adoration or short visits to the Blessed Sacrament, we acknowledge Him deeply in our life as our God and Savior and give Him quality time and what is due Him by virtue of religion. The Church is open during office hours.

Grieving with Mary can transform the way we see ourselves, our loved ones, and all of humanity. It can change our hearts, shift our perspectives, and open our souls to greater graces in times of trial and adversity. Praying to Our Lady of Sorrows, we ask that she might reveal to us what is hidden in our lives; that is to say, we ask her to show us what we don't yet understand that is causing us suffering or oppression. This could be due to a diabolic stronghold, a pattern of sin or vice, or seeing ourselves with greater humility. (Note: The 7 Sorrows of Mary are on back page.)

Source: www.catholicexchange.com author Jeannie Ewing



PARISH UPDATES

PLEASE HELP US! St. Vincent de Paul is desperately seeking volunteers to assist its mission to help those in need. If you feel called to help in this critical ministry please contact the parish office at 530.877.4501.

Registration for Sacrament Preparation is now open for the new religious education year. This is for anyone who has not received the Sacraments of Baptism, First Reconciliation & Communion, and Confirmation: infants, children, youth, and adults. If you or your children are interested in receiving any of these Sacraments, please contact the parish office for more information. Classes for First Communion and Confirmation will begin for children and youth in October.

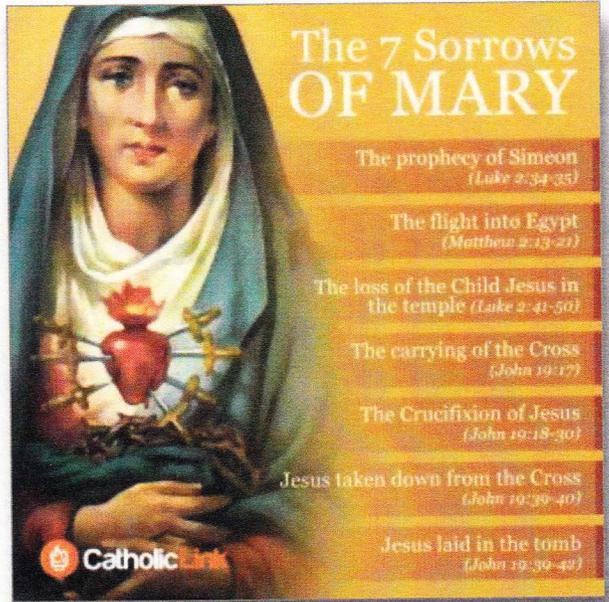
40 Days For Life Prayer Vigil In Progress Now!

40 Days For Life prayer vigil began Wed., Sept. 22 but it's not too late to join! It continues through Sunday, Oct.31. We need your help with fasting and prayers, including prayers at the facility.

- If fasting, what type of fasting you will do?
- If praying, what time frame will you pray out at the sidewalk?

Questions & sign up at <https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/chico>

We pray outside the Women's Health Specialist on Humboldt, across from the Police Station, towards the freeway. There is a pathway around the businesses so walking and praying is much easier. You can bring children to walk around this area as the traffic is much safer. There are escorts at this facility which brings a different challenge. Sign up problems or questions call Mary at 530-519-8818 or email 40dayschico@gmail.com



Blessing of the Animals



SAT.; OCT. 2

10:30 am
Bring your service animals, your pets, horses, pigs, birds, dogs, reptiles, cats by for a blessing!

Everyone



Welcome!

Oct. 3

Persistent Renewal, Healing, and Hope



Sunday, October 3, 2021
Commemoration Mass & Dedication

Please Join Us For
A Special Commemoration Mass & Event
St. Thomas More Catholic Church
- In conjunction with -
Order of Malta Western Association
This special event marks the 3rd
Anniversary of the deadliest, most
destructive wildfire in California history.

Summary of the Day's Events

Noon - Mass, Celebrant: Msgr. James Kidder, Chaplain - Order of Malta
1p - Dedication of the Memorial Wall
1:30p - Special Lunch
2p - Reflections with Special Guest Speaker, Father Tom Hagan.

A reception will follow Reflections with Fr. Hagan.



Adult Preparation Confirmation Classes
On Tuesdays, 6 p.m. at ODS

Fr. Martin began offering Adult Preparation for Confirmation classes at Our Divine Savior, in Chico, Tuesday, Sept. 21., 6p to 7:30p. It's not too late join. Note the class schedule below:

- Class Dates: Every Tuesday Sept. 21 to Oct. 26.
 - Time: 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
 - Register in person or online at the ODS website.
- Confirmation will be held at St. John the Baptist, Chico, on Nov. 6 at 5p. Most Reverend Bishop Soto will preside.