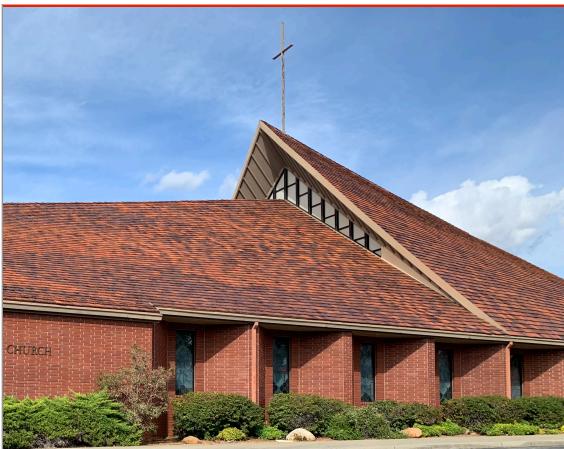


# ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH



[www.stmparadise.net](http://www.stmparadise.net) | 530.877.4501 | Email: [office@stmparadise.org](mailto:office@stmparadise.org)

## About St. Thomas More

**Parish Steward** Greg Kidder  
**Priest Supvr.** Fr Martin J. Ramat

St. Thomas More Catholic Church  
 767 Elliott Rd. Paradise, CA 95969  
 Office Hrs: Mon. - Thurs. 9a-2p  
 530.877.4501 (Office closed Friday)  
**Mass: Sunday at Noon**

**CONFESION 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday 5P - 6P**  
*(Call to schedule an appointment)*

## Important Dates

**18JAN:** Prayer Week for Christian Unity  
**07JAN:** Sacrament of Reconciliation 5p  
**21JAN:** National Prayer Vigil for Life  
**Sunday Mass is Drive-In & Live-Streamed**

## Sunday Readings

The Epiphany of the Lord  
 Solemnidad de la Epifanía del Señor  
**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Isaiah 60:1-6  
**Psalm:** 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13  
*Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.  
 Que te adoren, Señor, todos los pueblos.*  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6  
**Gospel:** Matthew 2:1-12



## MEDITATION OF THE DAY

Through the Eyes of King Melchior

*I was a man with a keen mind—even a brilliant one, many would often say. I was well-educated, acquiring tremendous knowledge of the various disciplines, which brought me much praise and applause. And yet my passion was always to explore & discover the true essence*

*Meditation of the Day continues on the next page*

## JANUARY INTENTIONS of the HOLY FATHER

**Intention for Evangelization – Human Fraternity**

*May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers & sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.*

**Intención para la evangelización – La fraternidad humana**

*Que el Señor nos dé la gracia de vivir en plena fraternidad con hermanos y hermanas de otras religiones, rezando unos por otros, abriendonos a todos.*

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR SUNDAY; JANUARY 3<sup>RD</sup>

*Al Pena †  
 Larry Campbell †*

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK - LET US PRAY FOR

**Parmenio Ospina**  
**Caroline Keyes**  
**Leo Bourgeois**  
**The Jennett Family**  
**Sharon Wilson**  
**Sam Weaver**  
**Beverly Hegenbart**  
**Abbie West**  
**Suzie Aldrich**

**DRIVE-IN MASS CONTINUES! HAPPY NEW YEAR!  
 WATCH FACEBOOK & STM WEB FOR UPDATES**

## This Week's Readings

*From December 17 to the end of the Christmas Octave  
the Masses of the day are obligatory.*

### Monday; January 4<sup>th</sup> Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

1st Reading: 1 John 3:22-4:6  
Psalm 2 *I will give you all the nations for an inheritance.*  
Gospel: Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25

### Tuesday; January 5<sup>th</sup> Memorial of Saint John Neumann,

1st Reading: 1 John 4:7-10  
Psalm 72 *Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.*  
Gospel: Mark 6:34-44

### Wednesday; Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> Memorial of Saint André Bessette

1st Reading: 1 John 4:11-18  
Psalm 72 *Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.*  
Gospel: Mark 6:45-52

### Thursday; Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> Thursday after Epiphany

1st Reading: 1 Jn 4:19-5:4  
Psalm 72 *Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.*  
Gospel: Luke 4:14-22

### Friday; January 8<sup>th</sup> Friday after Epiphany

1st Reading: 1 John 5:5-13  
Psalm 147 *Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.*  
Gospel: Luke 5:12-16

### Saturday; Jan. 9<sup>th</sup> Saturday after Epiphany

1st Reading: 1 John 5:14-21  
Psalm 149 *The Lord takes delight in his people.*  
Gospel: John 3:22-30

*The Epiphany of the Lord*

*Meditation of the Day continued from front page.*

**MEDITATION of the DAY:** Through the Eyes of King Melchior

*of things. I felt confident in these abilities, and (I must admit) I enjoyed the admiration for my efforts....*

*Now, here we were on a journey different from all the others. We had studied the stars and the prophetic writings, and with the passing of time, we had become thoroughly convinced the message was true. The anticipation grew in our minds—this search for the King.... Now, we made our way through the darkness, the heavy-laden camels dragged slowly behind. We had crossed empires and deserts, but the last few miles from Jerusalem seemed endless. We made our way through the narrow streets and found the light falling upon the simplest of dwellings. Unable to wait until the sun rose above the hills, my companion knocked. The door opened, and without hesitation (as if he had been waiting for our arrival), a kindly man with gentle features ushered us in from the cold. We were led to a dimly lit corner where sat a young woman. As we reverently approached, she glanced up and smiled, and I spontaneously bowed—for she had the nobility of a queen....*

*Now, no man could ever know or comprehend what I must tell you next. The young woman bent low, as if to direct our gaze to him. In an instant, I was on my knees, transfixed before the most beautiful of all faces. It was the face of a child. What I encountered in that brief but momentous minute was so astonishing I can barely say. Here, in this poor, humble, little King I found all the wisdom that ever was. Here, I somehow knew, was the source of all truth. Overwhelmed, I could not utter a single word, but simply knelt in adoration. — THE SISTERS OF LIFE*

*From Epiphanies: Meditations with Scripture, a collection of Scriptural meditations in the Ignatian tradition. © Sisters of Life, New York, NY. www.sistersoflife.org.*

*Excerpt from Magnificat, Meditation of the Day, Jan. 3, 2021.*

### Sacramento de la Reconciliación

Esta programado para el jueves 7 de enero, en STM. Favor de llamar a la oficina para ponerlo (a) en la lista. 530.877.4501.

### The next Sacrament of Reconciliation is set

for Thursday, Jan. 7 at STM. An appointment is required! To schedule yours please call the church office at 530.877.4501.

## THE SACRAMENTS

### 1st Communion, 1st Reconciliation, or Baptism?

Do you want information about the sacraments? Please call the parish office at 530-877-4501 or email us at [office@stmparadise.org](mailto:office@stmparadise.org)

### ¿Primera comunión, primera reconciliación o bautismo?

Para información acerca de los sacramento favor de llamar a la oficina de STM.

## Dedicación/Devoción de enero

### El Sagrado Nombre de Jesús

#### JESÚS VINO A SALVAR A TODOS LOS PUEBLOS DE LA TIERRA

La manifestación del único Dios verdadero a personas provenientes de pueblos distintos al de Israel, representados por los magos de oriente, parte de la voluntad divina de que "todos los hombres se salven y todos lleguen al conocimiento de la verdad, porque no hay sino un solo Dios y un solo mediador entre Dios y los hombres, Cristo Jesus" (1 Tim 2, 4-5).

Los magos reconocen que Jesús es Dios y hombre Verdadero, ya que, "postrándose, lo adoraron" y por eso le entregaron el incienso, que simboliza la ofrenda y el sacrificio de los creyentes hacia Dios.

La salvación nos viene por el misterio de la Encarnación, muerte y resurrección del Hijo de Dios, y se nos aplica mediante el Bautismo y en la fe, para ser liberados del pecado y hacernos partícipes de la vida de Dios.



## January Devotion

### The Holy Name of Jesus

**January is traditionally dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus, a feast celebrated on Jan. 3. Here is an explanation of the devotion.** Since the 16th century Catholic piety has associated entire months to special devotions.

The devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus has been traditionally associated with the month of January, due to its celebration on January 3. The name Jesus was given

to the Holy Child at God's command (Luke 1:31). The Holy Name is all-powerful because of the Person who bears it; we honor it because of the command of Christ, that we should pray in His Name and because it reminds us of all the blessings we receive through our Holy Redeemer. Hence St. Paul was able to write to the Philippians: **"... at the name of Jesus every knee should bend of those in heaven, on earth, and under the earth"** (Phil. 2:10).

By means of this devotion we also make amends for improper use of the Holy Name.

#### COLLECT PRAYER

*May the splendor of your majesty, O Lord, we pray, shed its light upon our hearts, that we may pass through the shadows of this world and reach the brightness of our eternal home. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.*

Prayer Source: The Prayer Book, by Reverend John P. O'Connell, M.A., S.T.D. and Jex Martin, M.A., The Catholic Press, Inc., Chicago, IL.1954

Check ODS website for details on the Weekday 8:30A Mass, at ODS, with Father Martin.

## PARISH UPDATE



**Lost something?** If you have left any item(s) at Church, please contact the office. Our lost & found basket is full of items!

**While Butte County remains in the Purple Tier, STM Mass will maintain two options: 1) Drive-In as well as 2) Live Stream** via Facebook Live & Zoom. Weekday Masses from ODS will be Live-Stream.

1. **For STM Mass Live-Stream** go to the STM Facebook page or to the STM website.

2. **STM Sunday Drive-In Mass** is at Noon until further notice.

For weekday Mass from ODS, go to the ODS or STM website to live-stream 8:30 a.m. Mass with Fr. Martin.



**While working through this latest state mandate, due to the county move to the purple tier, we will give thanks to Our Lord Jesus Christ** for his mercy and kindness; for the rains that have come and are still to come. However, until such time as it is deemed appropriate we must hold off on delivering baskets for our *Welcome Home to the Ridge Program*. But we can still continue bag prep! If you would like to help please call the church office to schedule.

- **Bag prep:** We need your help to put together the gift bags. We've set up a special room with all the components and easy-to-follow instructions.

**Attention St. Thomas Parishioners! If you aren't receiving STM Parish Email Messages or haven't received your donation envelopes let us know! Call 530.877.4509 or e-mail us at [office@stmparadise.org](mailto:office@stmparadise.org) to request.**

**We will reschedule The Women of St. Thomas More meeting as soon as Butte County is released from the purple tier.** Watch the Bulletin, Facebook, and the STM website for updates. Questions? Call or text



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.

### The Women of St. Thomas More Deliver Special Gift in Time for Christmas.



Thanks to the generosity and open hearts of the Women of St. Thomas More, we were able to address a critical need of one of our parishioners just in time for Christmas. Sunday, December 20th, the ladies presented our own Miss Katie Chandler and her mother a car.

In 2019, at our Thanksgiving meeting, we learned of all that Katie and her mother endured before and following the Camp Fire – the death of their dear husband and father; illness of her mother; losing their home in the fire; no transportation. Both their story and determination moved us all and the ladies were inspired to act. It was determined that the most pressing need for them, especially Katie, as a young working women and college freshman, was a car since they didn't have any transportation. As a result of the ladies' donations made it possible to gift Katie with a car.



Making all this happen was truly a team effort. Larry Ahumada, with his expertise, helped us locate possible options and determine whether a car was mechanically sound & a good option for Katie. Following Mass, Father Martin blessed the car and Lori MacPhail made the presentation to Katie on behalf of the Women of St. Thomas More.



We give socially-distanced thanks to God for the open hearts and generous spirits of the Women of St. Thomas More that continue to move in His mighty name.



...let us not love in word or speech but in deed and in truth.

1 John 3:18