

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH



www.stmparadise.net | 530.877.4501 | Email: 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 Every Sunday at 1 p.m.
CONFESSION 1st Thursday 5P - 6P

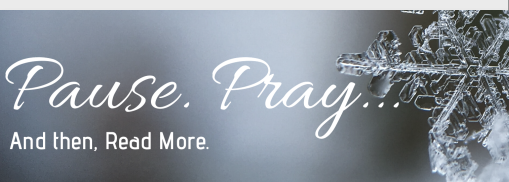
Important Dates

13Mar: Soup Supper & Stations of the Cross 6p
15Mar: St. Patrick's Day Dinner 2:15p
 23Mar: Charismatic Praise Group 630p ODS
28Mar: Women of STM meet at 10a
LENT: Support 40Days4Life Prayer Vigil
 LENT: Support 40 Cans 4 Life Food Drive

Sunday Readings

Second Sunday in Lent

1st Reading: Genesis 12:1-4a
Psalm 33: Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.
2nd Reading: 2Timothy 1:8b-10
Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9



MEDITATION of the DAY: *The Transfiguration*

What do the words *and was transfigured* mean? St. John Chrysostom, the theologian, said that the Lord graciously willed to open up a little of his divinity, and revealed God within him to the initiated disciples. As he prayed, says Luke, *the fashion of his countenance was altered*, and, as Matthew writes, *his face did shine as the sun...*

Those who behold God in divine contemplation need no other light, for he alone is the light of those who live forever. What need is there for a second light when they have the greatest light of all? Thus while he was praying he became radiant and revealed this ineffable light in an indescribable way to the chosen disciples in the presence of the
Meditation of the Day continues on the next page

March INTENTIONS of the HOLY FATHER

Catholics in China

We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.

MASS INTENTIONS for March 8th

Eric Peterson †

Michelle Deigmetich †

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK - LET US PRAY FOR

Leon Riley

Jose Saavedra

Millie Haddock

Sam Weaver

Jim McManus

Helvia Gonzalez

The Week's Readings

Monday; March 9th

1st Reading: Daniel 9:4b-10

Psalms 79 *Lord, do not deal with us according to our sins.*

Gospel: Luke 6:36-38

Tuesday; March 10th

1st Reading: Isaiah 1:10, 16-20

Psalms 50 *To the upright I will show the saving power of God.*

Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12

Wednesday; March 11th

1st Reading: Jeremiah 18:18-20

Psalms 31 *Save me O Lord, in your kindness.*

Gospel: Matthew 20:17-28

Thursday; March 12th

1st Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-10

Psalms 1 *Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.*

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

Friday; March 13th

1st Reading: Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a

Psalms 105 *Remember the marvels the Lord has done?*

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday; March 14th

1st Reading: Micah 7:14-15, 18-20

Psalms 103 *The Lord is kind and merciful.*

Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32



Continued from front page.

MEDITATION of the DAY: *The Transfiguration*

most excellent of the prophets, that he might show us that it is prayer which procures this blessed vision, and we might learn that this brilliance comes about and shines forth when we draw near to God through the virtues, and our minds are united with him. It is given to all who unceasingly reach up towards God by means of perfect good works and fervent prayer, and is visible to them. Everything about the blessed divine nature is truly beautiful and desirable, and is visible only to those whose minds have been purified. Anyone who gazes at its brilliant rays and its graces, partakes of it to some extent, as though his own face were touched by dazzling light. That is why Moses' countenance was glorified when he spoke with God (*Ex 34:29*)...

Our Lord Jesus Christ, however, possessed that radiance in his own right. He did not need prayer to illuminate his body with divine light, but he showed how God's splendor would come to the saints and how they would appear. *For the righteous shall shine forth as the sun in the Kingdom of their Father* (*Mt. 13:43*), and when they have all become divine light, they will behold, as children of that light, Christ's indescribable divine radiance.

—Saint Gregory Palamas

Saint Gregory Palamas († 1359) was a monk & Archbishop of Thessalonica, Greece. Excerpt from *Magnificat*, March 2020 edition, Sunday, March 8th, Meditation of the Day

Please Join the 40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil

Our 40 Days for Life prayer vigil began Feb 26 in front of Chico Planned Parenthood on Cohasset where abortions are performed. For 40 days and nights, people of faith and conscience will continue to stand peacefully outside Planned Parenthood centers and abortion facilities worldwide to do what is most critical in the face of this evil: Pray. Interested? Pick up a flyer in the church vestibule. Questions? Call Kathy DeCristofaro: 873-4132. To pray with fellow parishioners sign up at 40daysforlife.com/chico or call Kathy.

Still Need Support for the 40 Cans for Life Food Drive



Please donate 40 cans of food to the Community Resource Coalition by placing your cans in the vestibule food baskets any time during Lent. The needy of our community would greatly benefit from your generosity. For more info contact Greg DeCristofaro at 873-4132.

**GOT YOUR TICKET FOR NEXT SUNDAY?
SEE NEXT PAGE FOR DETAILS...**





Many of you may have heard about the recent passing of Rosemary Peterson's son, Eric. Arrangements have not yet been made but Rosemary will advise everyone via the bulletin once details for services are confirmed. Meanwhile, please keep our beloved Rosemary and Eric in your prayers.

The St. Thomas More "Welcome Home" Community Connections Ministry needs you! Will you answer the call?

Every day more families are returning to the Ridge or are moving here for the first time and we want to welcome them home. Hence, the Welcome Home Community Connections Ministry was born. We are long on ideas but short on planners and leaders to help get this ministry off the ground. We need help from our parish to lead the way.

This new ministry will have a three-fold mission:

1. **Welcome** new families and returning families to the Ridge.
2. **Invite** them to Mass and find out whether STM can be of service.
3. **Ask** for prayer requests and pray over them with the family members.

Interested? Want to know more? Please call the church office: 877.4501.



The Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is offered on the first Thursday of every month during the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The people of St. Thomas More parish are encouraged to come to church to spend some quiet time with the Lord.



Got Your Ticket? The St. Thomas More Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner is Next Sunday!!

Dear St. Thomas More parishioners it's not too late to get your ticket for our annual St. Patrick's Day Corn Beef and Cabbage Dinner sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. It's next Sunday, March 15th after the 1 pm Mass.

- **Dinner tickets** are \$15 for adults and \$40 per family with children under 18 years of age.
- **Tickets for the 50/50 raffle drawing donations** are \$1 each or 12 raffle tickets for \$10.



All proceeds from this event help the Knights of Columbus continue their charitable works for St. Thomas More and in the community with their scholarship program. Please join us for a wonderful dinner and fun-filled night with friends and fellow parishioners.

For more information please call the parish office at (530) 877-4501; or Greg DeCristofaro at (530) 873-4132; or Jim Collins at (530) 876-3268.



An Invitation to St. Thomas More From the Legion of Mary



On Sunday, March 15th, The Legion of Mary cordially invites Active members (Legionnaires), Auxiliary Members and interested parishioners to participate in the Acies, an annual renewal of our promise to the Blessed Mother as we became active members of the Legion.

The Legion of Mary's March 15th Events

- **A 10:00AM Mass** will be hosted by the Northern California Counties Curia (NCCC) at St. John the Baptist Church in Chico, officiated by Pastor Fr. Michael Ritter.
- **The Acies** (Promise Renewal) follows in the Church.
- **A potluck** follows in the basement cafeteria.

All are welcome to participate in the Rosary and Potluck. Please call Sr. Lupe Guerra, Curia President at 530-899-7995 or Sr. Tina Howard, Acting Curia Secretary at 530-990-3715 for more information.

SAVE THESE DATES



- **Fri.; March 13: Lenten Soup Supper followed by Stations of the Cross.** Please join us at 6 p.m. for a Lenten Soup Supper at STM which will then be followed by Stations of the Cross. Supper will be served in the school Multipurpose room.
- **Sun.; March 15: Legion of Mary** 10 a.m. Mass at St. John the Baptist, Chico, followed by Rosary & potluck.
- **Sun.; March 15: St. Thomas More Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner following Mass!!**
- **Fri.; March 20: Lenten Soup Supper & Stations of the Cross at STM at 6p.**
- **Mon.; March 23: Charismatic Praise & Worship Prayer Group** Meeting at ODS. 6:30p in church office prayer room
- **Sat. March 28: Women of STM Mtg** at 10a at the school.



SPECIAL LENTEN DATES

- **Fri., Mar. 13:** Soup Supper at 6p followed by Stations of the Cross at STM
- **Fri., Mar. 20:** Soup Supper at 6p followed by Stations of the Cross at STM
- **Fri., Mar. 27:** Soup Supper at 6p followed by Stations of the Cross at Our Divine Savior
- **Sun., Apr. 5:** Palm Sunday at STM
- **Thu., Apr. 9:** Holy Thursday 7p at STM
- **Fri., Apr. 10:** Good Friday at ODS (*time tba*)
- **Sun., Apr. 12:** Easter 1p at STM

You Are Invited to Join the Charismatic Praise & Worship Prayer Group the 4th Monday of Each Month

The St. Thomas More Parish is invited to join with ODS and others from a variety of backgrounds each month in an atmosphere of love and mutual support. This Charismatic Praise & Worship Prayer group will help us grow in the love and knowledge of God, and offers a way to show this love in ourselves and to our neighbors.

Each Prayer Meeting includes a time of praise and worship in song along with a teaching. There also is time for prayer ministry and intercession. Everyone is welcomed to share what God has done or is doing in their lives as this is key to building up the faithful through the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Songs of praise and worship connect with God through song and prayer for his majesty, his love, and his faithfulness; and thanks Him for his grace in our lives. This time of praise and thanksgiving may be in words, songs or through that way of praying without words.

The group meets each month on the 4th Monday at ODS (566 Lassen Ave., Chico) in the Parish Office Prayer Rm; 6:30p to 8p. Questions? Call Deacon James: 893-2348.

The next meeting is Monday; March 23, 6:30p at ODS.

ARE YOU READY FOR A FUN SPRING AFTERNOON OUTING WITH GREAT FOOD & BEVERAGES?

The Women of St. Thomas More to Host Silent Auction!

Saturday, April 18

4p to 7p

Tickets \$5 in advance / \$6 at the door

There will be an assortment of scrumptious fancy hors d'oeuvres & delicious beverages.

At this fundraiser you'll have a chance to bid on many different items — beautiful, practical, delicious, or just plain fun!! So please put April 18 on your calendar and tell your friends!

Proceeds raised from this event help to fund parish & community service projects of
The Women of St. Thomas More Catholic Church

