



[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 Every Sunday at Noon  
CONFESSION: 1st Thurs. 5p  
Call for an appointment*

**Important Dates**

**01Jan:** 2021 New Year's Day Mass 11A  
**07Jan:** Sacrament of Reconciliation 5p  
**All Jan!** Watch FB & web 4 Mass changes

**Sunday Readings**

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**  
**Domingo dentro de la octava de**  
**Navidad La Sagrada Familia**  
**1st Reading:** Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14  
**Psalm** 128: *Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.*  
**PS 104:** *El Señor nunca olvida sus promesas*  
**2nd Reading:** Colossians 3:12-21  
**Gospel:** Luke 2:22-40



**MEDITATION of the DAY:** Pondering the Holy Family

*There is a certain flavor to the days after a child is born into a home. Gratefulness that all went well, a deep relief from anxiety, a new happiness, and a more tender love hover over the household. All this must have been true of the very first Christian family who*

*Meditation of the Day continues on next page*

**DECEMBER INTENTIONS of the HOLY FATHER**

***For a Life of Prayer***

*We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.*

***Por una vida de oración***

*Oramos para que nuestra relación personal con Jesucristo sea alimentada por la Palabra de Dios y una vida de oración.*

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR SUNDAY; DECEMBER 27<sup>th</sup>**

***Larry Campbell †***  
***The Holy Souls in Purgatory †***

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK - LET US PRAY FOR**

***Caroline Keyes***  
***Parmenio Ospina***  
***Jennett Family***  
***Sharon Wilson***  
***Beverly Hegenbart***  
***Abbie West***  
***Susie Aldrich***  
***Sam Weaver***

## The Week's Readings

**Mon.; Dec. 28<sup>th</sup>** **Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs**

1st Reading: 1John 5–2:2

Psalm 124 *Our soul has been rescued like a bird from the fowler's snare.*

Gospel: Matthew 2:13-18

**Tues.; Dec. 29<sup>th</sup>** **5TH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

1st Reading: 1John 2:3-11

Psalm 96 *Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice!*

Gospel: Luke 2:22-35

**Wed.; Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>** **6TH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

1st Reading: 1John 2: 12-17

PS 96 *Let the heavens be glad & earth rejoice.*

Gospel: Luke 2:36-40

**Thurs.; Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>** **7TH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

1st Reading: 1John 2:18-21

PS 96 *Let the heavens be glad & earth rejoice.*

Gospel: John 1:1-18

**Friday; Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>** **SOLEMNITY OF MARY, the HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**

1st Reading: Numbers 6:22-27

PS 67 *May God bless us in his mercy.*

2nd Reading: Galatians 4:4-7

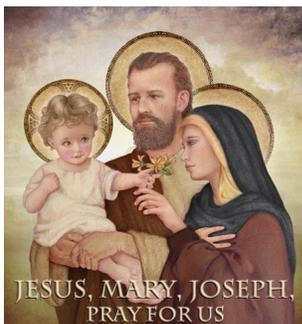
Gospel: Luke 2:16-21

**Sat.; Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup>** **Memorial of Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church**

1st Reading: 1John 2:22-28

Psalm 98 *All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.*

Gospel: John 1:19-28



continued from front page.

### MEDITATION of the DAY: Pondering the Holy Family

ever lived, only much more so. Of the young girl and Mother it is told that she didn't need any help, neither for herself nor for her little child. She was able to take care of him alone right away. And she gave birth to her first- born son and wrapped him up in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger.

We can imagine Joseph going into Bethlehem every day, partly to buy fresh food, and partly to watch how the census was going. In forty days he would have to present Mother and Child in the Temple.... He told Mary that the shepherds couldn't get over the things they had heard and seen in that unforgettable night, and had told their friends and neighbors. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. What did Mary do about this? She kept all these things, pondering them in her heart.... "To ponder" is just another word for "to meditate on" or simply "to think about." With a special effort, some of us might set aside fifteen minutes a day out of a sense of duty to ponder upon divine things. This time of meditation can turn into a real bother, and we may spend it looking at the watch. At the slightest provocation we gladly omit it.... But with Mary it seems to be second nature. Already, as a child in the Temple, she must have been meditating on the law of the Lord all the days of her life, as it says in Psalm 118. The splendor of the house of God, the starry sky at night, the countryside of Judea, the Word of God as it was read to her from ancient scrolls by her teachers— everything was one big meditation book for her, telling of the grandeur and also of the mercy of God. She never grew tired of pondering on all those things in her heart....

When God in his eternal wisdom resolved to redeem mankind, he had infinite ways in which to do it. There were shapes and forms we can think of, such as sending the Messiah as an angel in great power and glory, or as a mighty king on horseback, then there are many more possibilities which we in our limited mind can't even conceive. But no, Almighty God chose none of those ways, but instead, sent his only Son as a little child into a family.

—**Maria von Trapp**

Maria von Trapp († 1987), with her children and stepchildren, the Trapp Family Singers, inspired the musical and film *The Sound of Music*. / From *Let Me Tell You About My Savior: Yesterday, Today, and Forever, When the King Was Carpenter*. © 2000, New Leaf Press, Inc., Green Forest, AR. [www.newleafpress.net](http://www.newleafpress.net).

Excerpt from **Magnificat**, December edition, Sunday 27th, Meditation of the Day

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

Dedicación/Devoción  
de diciembre  
Inmaculada  
Concepción de la  
Santísima Virgen María



December Devotion  
The Immaculate Conception

**December is traditionally dedicated to the Immaculate Conception.** The Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first moment of her conception, by a singular privilege of Almighty God, and in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, our

Savior and hers, was preserved from all stain of original sin. This age-old belief of the Church was defined by Pope Pius IX in 1854 as an article of revealed truth.

RECETA PARA ESTOS DIAS DE NAVIDAD

- Ofrece todo tu amor para Dios y tus hermanos
- Da algo que te guste a alguien que le haga falta
- Ofrece una sonrisa, una palabra, un te quiero
- Cuando te sientes a la mesa a comer, dale gracias a Dios por esos alimentos que vas a recibir, recuerda que hay tantos hermanos que no tienen tu misma suerte.
- Ten una tonelada de paciencia, comprensión y compasión, con aquellos que no pueden, que no saben dar amor, que no pueden dar de sí.
- Ayuda al necesitado sin esperar recompensa.

PROCEDIMIENTO

Al levantarte cada mañana dale gracias al Creador por ese nuevo día.

Mira al cielo, los arboles, la gente, los animales y date cuenta de lo afortunado que eres. Primero por estar vivo y tener un nuevo día para superarte como ser humano, y luego por todas las bellezas que la vida te ofrece. Sal de tu casa, trabaja, esfuérzate, da lo máximo que puedas, ayuda a tu prójimo, ayúdate a ti mismo, y al regresar a tu casa, al regresar junto a tu familia, al acostarte, en todo momento dale gracias a Dios por ese bello día que te permitió vivir.



¡ Feliz Navidad!

**INVOCATION** O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee.

**TO THE VIRGIN IMMACULATE** O Virgin Immaculate, Mother of God and my Mother, from thy sublime height turn upon me thine eyes of pity. Filled with confidence in thy goodness and knowing full well thy power, I beseech thee to extend to me thine assistance in the journey of life, which is so full of dangers for my soul. And in order that I may never be the slave of the devil through sin, but may ever live with my heart humble and pure, I entrust myself wholly to thee. I consecrate my heart to thee for ever, my only desire being to love thy divine Son Jesus. Mary, none of thy devout servants has ever perished; may I too be saved. Amen.

**Our Father, Hail Mary, Eternal rest, etc.**

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

Gracias Dios por entregarnos tu hijo amado



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

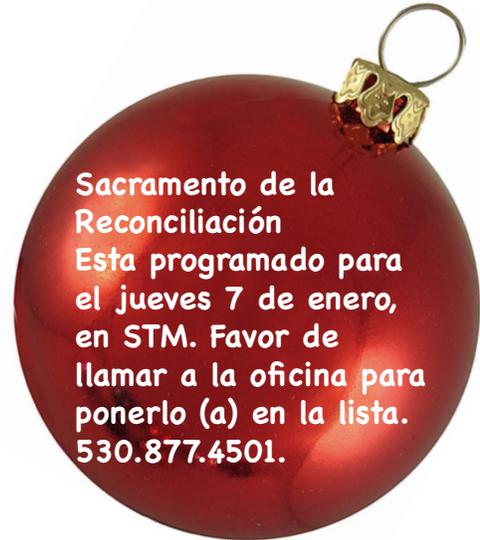
**Due to Butte County now being in the Purple Tier, STM Mass will be offered as in-car or live-streamed** from the church via Facebook Live & Zoom. Weekday Masses at 8:30 a.m. will be offered via live-stream from ODS. To live-stream any Mass go to the ODS or STM website, or STM Facebook.

**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 there will be limited deliveries of 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.



**Attention St. Thomas Parishioners! If you aren't receiving STM Parish Email Messages or haven't received your donation envelopes let us know!**

**To request,** e-mail [office@stmparadise.org](mailto:office@stmparadise.org) or call the church office at call 530.877.4509.



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



**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.**