

# 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**

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

## Important Dates

**29NOV:** 1st Sunday of Advent Mass 12p in car  
**03DEC:** Sacrament of Reconciliation call 4 appt.  
**06DEC:** 2nd Sunday of Advent Mass Noon in car  
Watch for Mass details on STM website & Facebook

## Sunday Readings

First Sunday of Advent  
 Primer Domingo de Adviento

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64, 2b-7  
**Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19** Lord make us turn  
 to you; let us see your face & we shall be saved.  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** 1 COR 15:20-26, 284:13-18  
**Gospel:** Matthew 25:31-46



## MEDITATION OF THE DAY

Season of Longing, Season of Prayer

*In what we so often think of as a terribly jaded age, there is a deep hunger for something beyond: a hunger to be reminded that this life is only the beginning, that all of the pain and suffering will one day be washed away; a hunger for support in this life so that we can go through this pilgrimage achieving some kind of serenity and peace;*

*Meditation of the Day continues on the next page*

## NOVEMBER INTENTIONS of the HOLY FATHER

*Artificial Intelligence*

*We pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may be oriented towards respecting the dignity of the person and of Creation.*

**La Inteligencia Artificial**

*Rezamos para que los avances de la robótica y la inteligencia artificial se orienten al respeto de la dignidad de la persona y de la Creación.*

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR SUNDAY; NOVEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup>

*The Holy Souls in Purgatory †*

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK - LET US PRAY FOR

**Sharon Wilson**  
**Sam Weaver**  
**Beverly Hegenbart**  
**Chip Dow**  
**Abbie West**  
**Suzie Aldrich**  
**The Jennett Family**  
**The Knechtel Family**

**STM 1<sup>ST</sup> & 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY ADVENT MASSES WILL BE DRIVE-IN BY CAR. NOON. SEE INSERT FOR DETAILS.**

## This Week's Readings

### Monday; Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> Saint Andrew

1st Reading: Romans 10:9-18

Psalm 19 *The judgements of the Lord are true, and all of them are just.*

Gospel: Matthew 4:18-22

### Tuesday; December 1<sup>st</sup>

1st Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalm 72 *Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.*

Gospel: Luke 10:21-24

### Wednesday; December 2<sup>nd</sup>

1st Reading: Isaiah 25:6-10a

Psalm 23 *I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.*

Gospel: Matthew 15:29-37

### Thurs.; December 3<sup>rd</sup> Saint Francis Xavier

1st Reading: Isaiah 26:1-6

Psalm 118 *Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*

Gospel: Matthew 7:21, 24-27

### Friday; December 4<sup>th</sup>

1st Reading: Isaiah 29:17-24

Psalm 27 *The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom should I fear?*

Gospel: Matthew 9:27-31

### Saturday; December 5<sup>th</sup>

1st Reading: Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26

Psalm 147 *Blessed are all who wait for the Lord!*

Gospel: Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

### The next Sacrament of Reconciliation is set

for Thursday, Dec 3 at STM. An appointment is required! To schedule yours please call the church office at 530.877.4501.

*Meditation of the Day continued from front page.*

**MEDITATION of the DAY:** Season of Longing, Season of Prayer  
*a hunger for a spiritual life that is best reflected in prayer, prayer of every type, the prayer of the Rosary, the prayer of singing, the Psalms & so on. This is what Advent is about: the spirit of prayer... It is the period during which we are reminded of the longing of the entire human race for the potential of salvation after original sin. It is the period during which we are reminded of the longing of the Israelites when they were on pilgrimage in the desert after having escaped from slavery to the Egyptians—wandering, weary, lost, confused, just as we are so often, praying that they would get to the Promised Land, which is the symbol of heaven. Advent is a reminder of those nine months of prayer in which surely Mary engaged, praying to the Father, praying to the Son within her, awaiting his advent, awaiting his birth on Christmas Day. It is appropriate, therefore, that we try during Advent—with all the hustle and bustle, with all of the pseudo-Christmas carols being blasted out on the streets, all of the activities attendant to preparation for Christmas—to enter into a season of recollection, a season of reminder, a season in which we reflect on what today's Gospel reflects on: the second coming of Christ. Glorious as was his coming on Christmas Day, his first advent, the second advent will be of immeasurable glory. It is at that coming when all of us will be judged, each of us personally and individually. That will be the advent we hope will assure us of eternal happiness.*

—JOHN CARDINAL O'CONNOR

Cardinal O'Connor († 2000) was the Archbishop of New York, a former Navy chaplain, and a great friend to Magnificat in its first years. [From *A Moment of Grace: John Cardinal O'Connor on the Catechism of the Catholic Church*. © 1995, Ignatius Press, San Francisco, CA. [www.ignatius.com](http://www.ignatius.com). Excerpt from *Magnificat, Meditation of the Day*, Nov. 29

## 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 sacramentos favor de llamar a la oficina de STM.

### Sacramento de la Reconciliación

Esta programado para el jueves 3 de diciembre, en STM. Favor de llamar a la oficina para ponerlo (a) en la lista. 530.877.4501.

## Dedicación/Devoción de noviembre Las Santas Almas

**¡VEN PRONTO, SEÑOR  
JESUS!**

Iniciamos el Adviento, y el Espíritu Santo mueve a su Iglesia a pedir que nuestro Señor Jesucristo venga, "con gran poder y majestad", a regir a su Iglesia y al mundo entero. Por eso decimos en la Eucaristía:

**"Ven, Señor Jesús"**

- No debemos tener miedo porque aquel que dio su vida por nosotros en la cruz vendrá de nuevo para traernos paz y la felicidad verdadera.
- A nosotros nos toca velar y estar preparados "mediante la práctica de las buenas obras".

**Como Iglesia nos preparamos para recibir al  
"dueño de la casa".**



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



## November Devotion The Holy Souls in Purgatory

**We are at the end** of November, the month when the Catholic Church dedicates the entire month to praying in a special way for the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

**Be sure to take time to pray** during these last two days for The Holy Souls, also called the Faithful Departed; these members of the Church who await the purification of their souls before

joining the saints in heaven for all eternity. **The poor souls in purgatory cannot pray for themselves** or do anything to hasten their entrance into heaven, but we can and ought to pray for them as an act of charity. These Holy Souls have died in the state of grace but are not yet free from all punishment due to their unforgiven venial sins, and all other sins already forgiven for which satisfaction is still to be made. They are certain of entering Heaven, but first they must suffer in Purgatory. **The Holy Souls cannot help themselves** because for them the night has come, when no man can work (John 9:4). It is our great privilege that we can shorten their time of separation from God by prayers, good works & especially, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

### FOR THE SOULS IN PURGATORY THE MISERERE

Psalm 50 is a marvelous act of contrition, confession, and supplication by a repentant sinner. It was composed by David after his sin with Bethsabee. In reparation David promises to lead others back to God by telling them of the ways of divine justice. Instead of offering God an external sacrifice which he knows He will not accept, he offers instead the sacrifice of a contrite and humble heart, a sacrifice that will always be most pleasing in the eyes of God.

Have mercy on me, O God, in Your goodness; in the greatness of Your compassion wipe out my offense. Thoroughly wash me from my guilt and of my sin cleanse me. For I acknowledge my offense, and my sin is before me always: "Against You only have I sinned, and done what is evil in Your sight"-- That You may be justified in Your sentence, vindicated when You condemn. Indeed, in guilt was I born & in sin my mother conceived me; Behold, You are pleased with sincerity of heart, and in my inmost being You teach me wisdom. Cleanse me of sin with hyssop, that I may be purified; wash me and I shall be whiter than snow. Let me hear the sounds of joy and gladness; the bones You have crushed shall rejoice. Turn away Your face from my sins, and blot out all my guilt.

November Devotion continues on back page.



## 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!

**Due to Butte County being moved to the Purple Tier, STM Mass will be live streamed** from ODS via Facebook Live & Zoom. Please visit our website to livestream both Masses with Fr. Martin. STM Sunday Mass during Advent is now scheduled at Noon.

**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 Message 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 must postpone until further notice, The Women of St. Thomas More meeting scheduled for Sat., Dec. 5th at 10 a.m.** This is due to the latest Covid Mandate, Questions? Call or text Rolawn at 678.429.3848.

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENT



We regret to share with you that STM parishioner Mark Dimbat, who sat up front with his attendant, passed on Nov. 7. Such a joy-filled spirit. Please keep Mark and his family in your prayers.



**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.

November Devotion "Holy Souls in Purgatory" continues.

*A clean heart create for me, O God, and a steadfast spirit renew within me. Cast me not out from Your presence, and Your holy spirit take not from me. Give me back the joy of Your salvation, and a willing spirit sustain in me. I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners shall return to You. Free me from blood guilt, O God, my saving God; then my tongue shall revel in Your justice. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim Your praise. For You are not pleased with sacrifices; should I offer a holocaust, You would not accept it.*

*My sacrifice, O God, is a contrite spirit; a heart contrite and humbled, O God, You will not spurn. Be bountiful, O Lord, to Sion in Your kindness by rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem; Then shall You be pleased with due sacrifices, burnt offerings and holocausts; then shall they offer up bullocks on Your altar.*

### PRAYER FOR THE SOULS IN PURGATORY

O Lord, who art ever merciful and bounteous with Thy gifts, look down upon the suffering souls in purgatory. Remember not their offenses and negligences, but be mindful of Thy loving mercy, which is from all eternity. Cleanse them of their sins and fulfill their ardent desires that they may be made worthy to behold Thee face to face in Thy glory. May they soon be united with Thee and hear those blessed words which will call them to their heavenly home: *"Come, blessed of My Father, take possession of the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."*

### 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



### About The Pope's Nov. Intention on Artificial Intelligence & Robotics

Earlier this month, Vatican News announced a video about the Pope's November Intention re: artificial intelligence (AI) and robotics. AI has made exponential advances, as evidenced by its many applications in different fields of knowledge. Today, 37% of organizations in the world have implemented AI in some way (which represents a 270% increase in the past four yrs.)

In "The Pope Video" this month, Pope Francis clarifies that this progress in robotics and AI "can make a better world possible if it is joined to the common good." In this sense, he hopes for technological progress that does not increase the inequalities in society. If it does, the Pope says, it will not be "true progress". Such progress does not take into account the dignity of the human person and care for Creation.

**WATCH** "The Pope Video" on Technology to see his complete message. Go to the our website [STMparadise.net](http://STMparadise.net) and click the link to the Pope's Nov. Intention or find it online at [vaticannews.va](http://vaticannews.va)