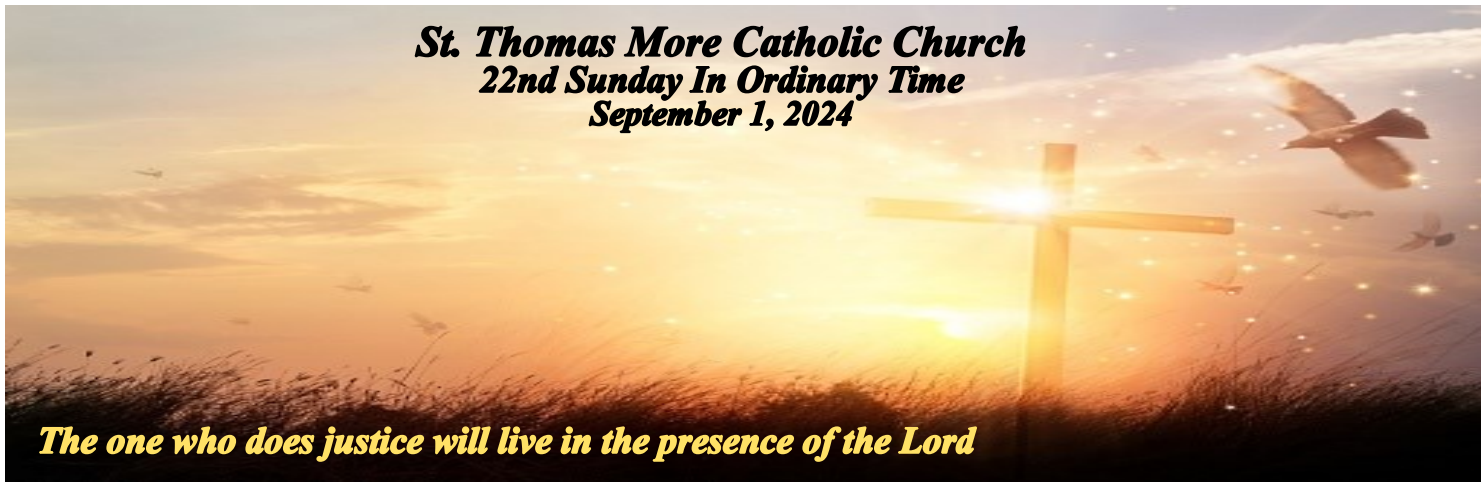


St. Thomas More Catholic Church
22nd Sunday In Ordinary Time
September 1, 2024



The one who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord

Welcome to St. Thomas More Catholic Church

Thank you for celebrating with us today. We warmly welcome you to our humble place of worship. Our Lord Jesus comes to us in word and sacrament as we celebrate His life, death and resurrection at Holy Mass. If this is your first time visiting, we hope you find a new spiritual home away from home. Founded in 1964, our parish has a long tradition of proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Sustainable only by your contributions, your generosity is sincerely appreciated. We welcome you, again, and thank you for celebrating with us.

Mass Schedule

Monday through Thursday	8:00 a.m.
Friday (STM School Mass)	8:00 a.m.
Saturday	8:00 a.m.
	5:00 p.m.
Sunday	8:00 a.m.
	10:00 a.m.
	12:00 p.m.
	(Español)

Holy Days of Obligation

Day Before Holy Day

Vigil Mass - 6:30 p.m.

Actual Holy Day

8:00 a.m.

6:30 p.m.

(Español)

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Maggie Briseño - Coordinator
 Gilbert Cantú, Alli Fuentes, Alicia Perez,
 Cesar Paez & Vicky Smith.

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

David Allen - Coordinator
 RoseMarie Evancho, Michele Allen & Rita Davis

***"The parish does not ask for favors either
 by email or text to parishioners asking to
 purchase gift cards of any sort."***

Holy Sacraments

Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. or by Appointment

Baptism

Parents and God-Parents must attend class prior to the Baptism.

Celebrated on:

The 4th Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m. (Spanish)

The 4th Saturday of the month at 5:00 p.m. (English)

Marriage & Quinceañera's

CONTACT THE PASTOR AT LEAST 9 MONTHS PRIOR TO DESIRED CEREMONY DATE.

Anointing of the Sick

Those facing hospitalization, surgery or have a significant illness and desire physical & spiritual healing are asked to call the office to schedule an anointing.

Eucharistic Adoration

Friday Adoration after Mass until 5:00 p.m.

Monthly English Holy Hour is the 1st Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

La Hora Santa Mensual es el primer Viernes del mes a las 7:00 p.m.

Religious Education Office

We offer Religious Education (including Sacramental Preparation) in English & Spanish for children in grades 1 through 12.

Please call the Rectory for more information.

St. Thomas More Catholic School

Our school offers excellent Academic opportunities for children beginning at 18 months up to 8th grade. Tuition assistance programs are available for families that qualify. For more information please call 210-655-2882 or

visit our website: www.St-Thomas-More-School.org

HOME OF THE KNIGHTS

PARISH OFFICE STAFF

PASTOR - REV. ED GONZALES

EMAIL FRGONZALES.STMC@GMAIL.COM

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE -

DEACON (RET) TIMOTHY M. TATE SR. EXT.106

DEACON - ROLANDO GUERRA

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT - FLOR MATA . . .EXT.100

BOOKKEEPER - RHONDA VILLALOBOS

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

/SACRAMENTAL RECORDS - MARTHA GUERRA. . .EXT. 101

FACILITIES MANAGER - JOSE LUIS HERNANDEZ

4411 Moana Drive

San Antonio, Texas 78218

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday

8:30 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.

CLOSED FOR LUNCH

12:00 P.M. TO 1:00 P.M.

1:00 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

CONTACT US

210.655.5070 (Office)

EMAIL :

STMPARISH@LIVE.COM

WEBSITE:

THOMASMORESATX.ORG

Gospel Meditation:

Purity isn't popular at the moment. Or is it? Look at a rack of health magazines or at popular podcasts. You'll see an infinite ocean of regulations and rituals of diets, intermittent fasting, morning sun rituals, intense juice detox practices, lists of dangerous foods, mental practices, as well as long lists of dos and don'ts for the proper cleaning of clothes, dishes, cars, houses, pets, and children. Like it or not, we long to be pure, clean, and without blemish.

This question of purity haunted people in Jesus' day, too.

The Pharisees and scribes (*the leading purity authorities of the day*) criticize Jesus, asking, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" (Mark 7:5).

Jesus responds by saying, "**There is nothing outside the person that can defile him if it goes into him; but the things that come out of the person are what defile the person**" (Mark 7:15).

What does he mean, and how can it help us be pure?

We've probably all heard the somewhat shopworn interpretation that Jesus replaces the ritual, exterior notion of purity with a moral, interior one. Christianity is thus seen as a kind of moral re-tooling, as if religion doesn't make us pure. Good moral intentions do. But this doesn't take the rest of Jesus' ministry seriously enough, nor our obsession with purity. The better reading is that Jesus audaciously offers himself as the ultimate source of human purity — from within each human heart. Both our religious ritual practices and our moral actions are meant to flow from this encounter with Jesus the Lord. When we are in friendship with him, everything becomes pure for us.

— Father John Muir

Meditación del Evangelio:

La pureza no es popular en este momento. ¿O sí? Mira un estante de revistas de salud o podcasts populares. Verás un océano infinito de regulaciones y rituales de dietas, ayuno intermitente, rituales matutinos al sol, intensas prácticas de desintoxicación de jugos, listas de alimentos peligrosos, prácticas mentales, así como largas listas de lo que se debe y no se debe hacer para la limpieza adecuada de la ropa, los platos, los automóviles, las casas, las mascotas y los niños. Nos guste o no, anhelamos ser puros, limpios y sin mancha.

Esta cuestión de la pureza también obsesionaba a la gente en los días de Jesús. Los fariseos y los escribas (*las principales autoridades de pureza de la época*) critican a Jesús, preguntando: "¿Por qué tus discípulos no viven según la tradición de los ancianos, sino que comen con las manos contaminadas?" (Marcos 7:5).

Jesús responde diciendo: "**No hay nada fuera de la persona que pueda contaminarla si entra en ella; pero las cosas que salen de la persona son las que contaminan a la persona**" (Marcos 7:15).

¿Qué quiere decir, y cómo puede ayudarnos a ser puros?

Probablemente todos hemos escuchado la interpretación un tanto desgastada de que Jesús reemplaza la noción ritual y exterior de pureza por una noción moral e interior. Por lo tanto, el cristianismo es visto como una especie de reorganización moral, como si la religión no nos hiciera puros. Las buenas intenciones morales sí. Pero esto no toma el resto del ministerio de Jesús lo suficientemente en serio, ni nuestra obsesión con la pureza. La mejor lectura es que Jesús se ofrece audazmente a sí mismo como la fuente última de la pureza humana, desde el interior de cada corazón humano. Tanto nuestras prácticas rituales religiosas como nuestras acciones morales están destinadas a fluir de este encuentro con Jesús el Señor. Cuando estamos en amistad con él, todo se vuelve puro para nosotros.

— Father John Muir

YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

August 25, 2024

Sunday Collection	\$ 5,175.12
Vigil Candles.....	\$ 122.04
STM School.....	\$ 3,028.00
Bazaar.....	\$ 20.00
Mass Intentions.....	\$ 10.00

*Second Collection Sept 7 - Sept 8:
to Support Helping Hands Fund*



PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

God our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, and consecrated persons.

Send your Holy Spirit to help others to respond generously and courageously to your call.

May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth and young adults.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen



On Saturday, September 14th, Pro-Life America will honor the memory of more than 60 million unborn victims of abortion during the 2024 National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children.

Solemn prayer services will be held simultaneously at sites around the country where abortion victims have been buried and at memorial places of prayer for the unborn.

Join us for the 2024 National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Babies and ensure that our unborn brothers and sisters will not be forgotten.

Memorial Service
for
Victims of Abortion
San Antonio, Texas

Date & Time
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH
9:00 AM—10:30 AM

Location
OUR LADY OF THE ATONEMENT
at the **FOUNTAIN OF LIFE**
15415 Red Robin Rd. SATX 78255

Program
Prayer
Reflections
Rosary for Life

Contact: Phil Sevilla, 210.784.0518
For more information on this event, visit:
NationalDayofRemembrance.org

Holy Hour

Thursday - 6 pm
Come... Spend some quiet time with Our Lord!
Hope to see you there.



La Hora Santa

Viernes - 7 pm
Ven... Pasa un rato tranquilo tiempo con Nuestro Señor!
Espero verte allí.

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA)

- Are you, or someone you know, interested in joining the Catholic Faith? -or-
- Are you a Baptized Catholic and interested in completing your Sacraments of Initiation - (Eucharist and / or Confirmation)? -or-
- Are you Catholic (or Protestant, Buddhist, Atheist etc.)? And, just want to know more about Our Faith?
- I invite you to join us on Thursday evenings beginning **THIS THURSDAY**, September 5th, at 7 pm
- All you need to bring... is yourself!
- Our meetings are v-e-r-y 'laid back,' there is no pressure
- We just learn and enjoy!
- Hope to see you there! - DT

Dear parishioners:
We are glad to announce the inaugural **LOVESTRONG MARRIAGE RETREAT**
When: September 27-29, 2024
Where: St Pius X Catholic Church Family Center

LOVESTRONG Marriage

**Making good marriages even better *Weekend event with no overnights*

For more information, contact:
Jaymes & Sarah Tamayo, Lead Couple (210) 857-8750, jaymes.tamayo@gmail.com
Marcos & Erin Martinez, Co-Lead Couple (210) 396-2813, Marcos.martinez05@yahoo.com
(210) 862-9741, sarahetamayo@gmail.com (210) 833-6373, emartinez@spxsa.org

Register online at lovestrongmarriage.com

ATTENTION
Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Volunteers are needed for our *homebound ministry*. We need English, Spanish, and Bi-lingual Ministers! It doesn't require a lot of time... and our home-bound parishioners really appreciate it and once again they feel a part of 'our community.'

Please, pray over this ministry; see if you feel a call to serve. **The reward will be great.**

If interested, contact the Parish Office.

• • • • •

ATENCIÓN
Ministros Extraordinarios de la Sagrada Comunión

Se necesitan voluntarios para nuestro *Ministerio a Confinados en Casa*. ¡Necesitamos ministros que hablen inglés, español o son bilingües!

No requiere mucho tiempo... Y nuestros feligreses confinados en casa realmente lo aprecian y se sienten parte de 'nuestra comunidad'.

Por favor, oren por este ministerio; Fíjate si sientes un llamado a servir.
Tu recompensa será grande.

Si está interesado, comuníquese con la Oficina Parroquial.

Fall Bazaar & Craft Show

Saturday, October 12, 2024
STM Carolan Hall
9 am - 5 pm

Arts and Crafts / Household Items
Food and Drinks Available
BINGO

Come... and Enjoy the Festivities
(Mark Your Calendar)

Making Mass Matter to Kids

Sarah Reinhard

When that certain kid of mine starts to protest going to Mass, I can't help but feel like a failure. How does this kid not "get" it? That's Jesus up there on the altar! We have to take the long view. Just as farmers plant seeds and rely on God to do the watering, so we, as their first catechists, plant seeds of faith in our children. Here are a few ideas on how you can instill an understanding and love of Mass in your children.

Learn Mass Together. There are a number of great books, apps, and online resources to aid you in your endeavors. You also might consider slipping into a daily Mass, which is half as long and



usually a much smaller crowd. Try going to Eucharistic Adoration or explore the church area together at a non-Mass time. Let the children become familiar with

what's going on. Help them appreciate the beauty around them. Invest yourself.

Discover Mass Together. Listen for key words or phrases. How many times does the priest raise the chalice? Which prayer does he use for the consecration? What are the servers doing? Why/when do we stand, sit, or kneel? Follow each part of Mass using the missal. Set the parameters before attending so your discovery doesn't become a distraction.

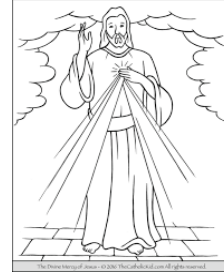
Pray About It Together. This always feels awkward to me. Sometimes, only God can help me. A prayer as simple as: "Lord, help us see you today at Mass" can open minds and hearts. †

DIVINE MERCY Jesus, I Trust in You

The Divine Mercy Group is back from their "Summer Vacation."

You are cordially invited to join them in this weekly devotion.

Tuesdays @ 5:30 pm in the Rectory Meeting Room



*** CALLING ALL CATECHISTS ***

Our Religious-Ed / Faith Formation Classes are 'gearing-up' for a new year!

By our Baptism we are called to "Go... and make disciples of all nations..."

We are all called to Evangelize and Witness to our faith. We owe it to our children... we owe it to our parish...

We owe it to God... and our Church...

When our children are baptized we promised that we will bring them up in the faith!

Teach them at home- yes... Send them to Faith Formation- yes... but take it that 1-step farther and volunteer your time and talent to those children whose parents may not be as dedicated as you are.

We need you! Don't use the excuse, "I don't know enough..." You know more than the children...

What you don't know... we'll teach you. Don't say, "Someone else will do it..."

thinking... (*hoping*) someone else will step up. They're thinking (*hoping*) you will!

Here are 10 reasons why **YOU should consider becoming a catechist.** Beginning with #10:

10. The best way to learn... is to teach. This is a win-win...

The kids/students learn while you reinforce **your** faith.

9. Catechists tell the truth. As long as you follow Scripture and Tradition... you'll have no problem.

8. Sharing the Faith is an honor. Doing God's work is always an honor...

7. Your own faith will come alive! As you prepare your lessons, etc... you'll find yourself learning!

You'll begin seeing through the eyes of a child... and that's a good thing.

Seeing the faith through your student's eyes will open **your** eyes!

6. You become an active part of the most active part of our Parish.

5. As a catechist... you are a Role Model! People look up to 'Sunday School Teachers' / Catechists.

4. You will be practicing stewardship. Stewardship is nothing more than caring for the gifts God has given us... and what more precious gift is there than his children and their families?

3. You show your family, friends, and fellow parishioners that you value Religious Education.

2. It's Fun! You've heard the old saying... 'Try it... You'll like it!' in this instance... it's true!

I invite you to have the *time of your life!*

And, Here it is... The Number-1 Reason you should be a Catechist... (*Drum-roll please...*):

1. It's what we are called to do!

If you feel you are called in any way (*teacher or helper*), contact Mrs Guerra in the parish office... talk to Father Ed, or one of your deacons. Thanks in advance for responding to this call.

Until next time... God Bless- DT



Our Knights of Columbus are now selling tickets for their BAZAAR BBQ Dinner. Make sure you get your ticket early as there will be a limited number of plates made.

See a Knight

Additionally: The KC Breakfasts will resume on September 8th.

Breakfasts will be served after the 8 and 10 o'clock Sunday Masses on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month (*except for holidays, etc.*)

This Week at Our Parish

Sunday, September 1, 2024
 7:00 am Grupo de Oracion Retreat - *Carolan Hall*
 10:00 am KoC Mass - *Church*

*** **Labor Day - Parish Offices Closed** ***

Monday, September 2, 2024
 7:30 am Guadalupanos Kickapoo Check In - *Carolan Hall*

Tuesday, September 3, 2024
 5:30 pm Divine Mercy - *Rectory Mtg Room*
 6:30 pm Coro Alegria Choir Practice - *Rectory Mtg Room*
 7:00 pm Grupo de Oracion Choir Practice - *Church*

Wednesday, September 4, 2024
 10:30 am Charismatic Prayer Grp Core Mtg - *Rectory Mtg Rm*
 6:00 pm KC 3rd Degree Officers Mtg- *Carolan Hall*
 7:00 pm Guadalupanos Choir Practice - *Church*


Thursday, September 5, 2024 -
 6:00 pm Holy Hour - *Church*
 7:00 pm OCIA - *Rectory Mtg Room*

Friday, September 6, 2024
 9:00 am Friday Adoration - *Church*
 6:00 pm KC Breakfast Prep - *Carolan Hall*
 6:30 pm Coro Alegria Guitar Practice - *Rectory Mtg Room*
 7:00 pm la Hora Santa / Grupo de Oracion - *Church*

Saturday, September 7, 2024
 3:30 pm Cenaculo de la Divina Misericordia - *Rectory Mtg Rm*

Sunday, September 8, 2024
 8:00 am KC Breakfast - *Carolan Hall*



 **Sanctuary Light Intention:**
Robert Acosta

Lecturas de la Semana del 2 - 8 Sept

Lunes: 1Cor 2:1-5; Sal 118:97-102; Lc 4:16-30
Martes: 1Cor 2:10-16; Sal 144:8-14; Lc 4:31-37
Miércoles: 1Cor 3:1-9; Sal 32:12-15,20-21; Lc 4:38-44
Jueves: 1Cor 3:18-23; Sal 23:1-6; Lc 5:1-11
Viernes: 1Cor 4:1-5; Sal 36:3-6,27-28,39-40; Lc 5:33-39
Sábado: 1Cor 4:6-15; Sal 144:17-21; Lc 6:1-5
Domingo: Is 35:4-7; Sal 145:7-10; Sant 2:1-5; Mc 7:31-37

Readings for the week of Sept 2 - 8

Monday: 1Cor 2:1-5; Ps 119:97-102; Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday: 1Cor 2:10b-16; Ps 145:8-14; Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday: 1Cor 3:1-9; Ps 33:12-15,20-21; Lk 4:38-44
Thursday: 1Cor 3:18-23; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 5:1-11
Friday: 1Cor 4:1-5; Ps 37:3-6,27-28,39-40; Lk 5:33-39
Saturday: 1Cor 4:6b-15; Ps 145:17-21; Lk 6:1-5
Sunday: Is 35:4-7a; Ps 146:7-10; Jas 2:1-5; Mk 7:31-37

Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 31, 2024
 5:00 pm †William Larson

Sunday, September 1, 2024
 8:00 am †Rodolfo Trevino Chapa by Elda Garcia
 †Richard Pansza, Jr by Norberto & Jeanette Pansza
 10:00 am †Charles & Genevieve Oswald by Oswald Family
 †Medardo E. Morales & Evangelina G. Morales by Morales / Briseno Family
 12:00 pm †Kathryn Marie Sweet by Maria G. Sweet
STM Parishioners - Both Living and Deceased

Monday, September 2, 2024
 8:00 am †Amparo Cabrera Olivares by Francisco Olivares & Family
Birthdays - Tony Saldiva by Rosa Saldiva

Tuesday, September 3, 2024
 8:00 am †Al Weinheimer by Carolyn Weinheimer
 †Fr. Gil Pansza by Norberto & Jeannette Pansza

Wednesday, September 4, 2024
 8:00 am †Baldemar Saldiva by Rosa Saldiva
 †Vicente Khanh by Kim Nguyen

Thursday, September 5, 2024
 8:00 am **All Ordained Clergy and Religious**

Friday, September 6, 2024
 8:00 am **Birthdays - Katherine Rosales** by Virginia Rabel

Saturday, September 7, 2024
 8:00 am **STM Parishioners - Both Living and Deceased**
 5:00 pm †Christina C. Dominguez by Dominguez Family

Sunday, September 8, 2024
 8:00 am †Rudy Quintero by Oralia Sanchez Quintero
In Thanksgiving - Jerome & Pat Klar by Klar Family
 10:00 am †Ruben P. Villa by Gloria Villa
 †Salome H. Briseno & Carolina B. Briseno by Morales / Briseno Family
 12:00 pm †Carlos Jimenez Reyes by Jimenez Family
 †Joaquin Bazan & Candelaria Villicana by Isela Cisneros



Liturgical Roles

Saturday, September 7, 2024
 5:00 pm **Altar Servers** - Volunteers
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Tim, S.Chapa, E.Guerrero, R.Alvarado, C.Lang
Lector - R.Alvarado

Sunday, September 8, 2024
 8 am **Altar Servers** - Volunteers
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Tim, M.Nguyen, R.Castaneda, E.Garcia, M.Aguirre
Lector - S.Castaneda

10 am **Altar Servers** - L.McCaffery, M.Pereida, A.McCaffery
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Rolando, H.Rodriguez, V.Smith, N.Rodriguez, L.Gifford, Sr.Eucharia, A.Fuentes
Lector - T.Garza

12 pm **Altar Servers** - A.Gomez, S.Obregon, A.Llanas
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Rolando, C.Hernandez, M.Pina, D+F.Malacara, I.Hernandez, E.Obregon
Lector - N.Obregon / L.Lopez



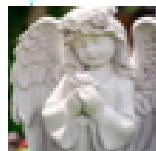
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
ST. THOMAS MORE
 Knights of Columbus Council # 7386
 meets 2nd Monday of each month
 at 7:00 p.m.
 For more information call
 Rick Erleno at 210-834-7017

Catholic Daughters of America #2683



Monthly Meeting:
 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
 Contact Regent
 Belinda Treviño at 210-275-6529

In Memory of
 The Leo Oswald &
 The Fred Lansing
 Families

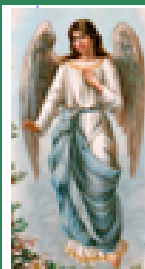


IN LOVING MEMORY
 OF REX A. BRIEN
 &
 MR. & MRS.
 HILDO CASTELLON

PRAY FOR THE 3 MOST
 FORGOTTEN SOULS IN
 PURGATORY

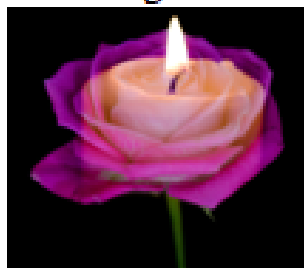


In Loving Memory
 of Joe Canales
 On behalf of
 The Canales Family
 Love Always



In Loving Memory of
 Medardo E. Morales &
 Evangelina G. Morales
 on behalf of
 The Morales &
 Briseño Families

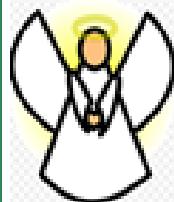
In Memory of
 Christina C. Dominguez
 on behalf of
 The Dominguez Family



In Memory of
 Dr. Steven D. Sprague
 on behalf of
 The Sprague Family



In Loving Memory
 Of
 Florencio Baiza,
 Louise Baiza Garza,
 Robert Garza
 &
 Mr. & Mrs.
 Ruben Rodriguez Sr.



Music Spectrum
 Publishing Company



In Memory
 of
 Jose (Joe) Galvan,
 Joseph (Joe) Galvan
 &
 Billy Sheridan
 on behalf of
 The Family

St. Thomas More Guadalupenos Society
 Invite all men & women to our group.
 Out Monthly Meeting & Fellowship Meets
 The 3rd Sunday of the month, after the
 8:00 a.m. Mass. For more information call
WMI Torres at 210.620.3745

Archdiocese of San Antonio
Procedures for Reporting Abuse

If you or someone you know has been a
 victim of sexual abuse by a priest,
 deacon, or other church personnel and
 you wish to file a complaint:

Contact the Office of Victim
 Assistance & Safe Environment at
 (210) 734-7786 OR (877) 700-1888
 or email: ovase@archsa.org.

You have the right to contact law
 enforcement or CPS at any time.

All calls or emails will be
 responded to within 48 hours.

ASE

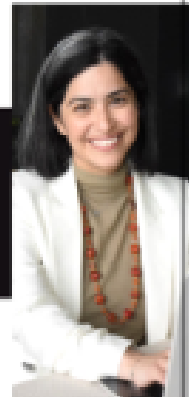
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 ARIANA GONZALEZ FARNETH, PLLC

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ALLIEDWOMENS CENTER.ORG

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hopeafterabortion.com
 210-342-4673

rachel@anewchoice.com

PROJECT RACHEL

Peace Starts Here



In Loving Memory
 of
 Santiago G. Garcia Sr.
 on behalf of
 The Garcia Family

Space Available Now!
 Call 210-655-5070