



**St. Thomas More Catholic Church**  
**25th Sunday In Ordinary Time**  
**September 22, 2024**

*The Lord Upholds My Life*  
*Psalm 54*

**Welcome to St. Thomas More Catholic Church**

Thank you for celebrating with us today! We warmly welcome you to our humble place of worship, where we hope you have a loving experience of God. 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 and living 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](http://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:

When I was a wet-behind-the-ears seminarian, I was sent for an immersion with the poor. For one month, I lived in a home for adults with developmental disabilities. It was a challenge for me because the residents had significant communication issues. A 30-year-old man there named Robin was totally deaf and mute. He had Down's Syndrome. He looked like a Viking, with a shock of red hair and a fine beard. But I felt awkward and disconnected from him. All my normal ways of interacting failed. I resigned myself to the fact that we'd never connect.

Then one morning something amazing happened. He was on the living room floor quietly playing with toys. Watching him from a chair, I sensed Jesus' words float into my mind, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me" (Mark 9:37).

I thought, "Jesus, you must somehow be in Robin." I sheepishly made sure no one else was in the room, and then I spoke in a clear voice: "Jesus, are you there?" Robin did not turn to me and say, "Hi, John. Yes, it's me, Jesus." He kept playing with his toys in silence.

But something changed in me. From that moment on, it was easier to just be with Robin, to joke around with him, to try sign-language with him, to let him be himself, and for me to be myself. His "disabilities" were no longer obstacles to overcome. He became just Robin, my friend.

Who in your life seems awkwardly distant or uncomfortable to be with?

Next time you see him or her, quietly invoke the name of Jesus, and see how the barriers disappear in you.

— *Father John Muir*

## Meditación del Evangelio:

Cuando era un seminarista mojado detrás de las orejas, me enviaron a una inmersión con los pobres. Durante un mes, viví en un hogar para adultos con discapacidades del desarrollo. Fue un desafío para mí porque los residentes tenían importantes problemas de comunicación. Un hombre de 30 años llamado Robin era totalmente sordomudo. Tenía síndrome de Down. Parecía un vikingo, con una mata de pelo rojo y una barba fina. Pero me sentí incómoda y desconectada de él. Todas mis formas normales de interactuar fallaron. Me resigné al hecho de que nunca nos conectaríamos.

Entonces, una mañana, sucedió algo asombroso. Estaba en el suelo de la sala jugando tranquilamente con juguetes. Al observarlo desde una silla, sentí que las palabras de Jesús flotaban en mi mente: "El que recibe a uno de estos niños en mi nombre, a mí me recibe, y el que me recibe a mí, no me recibe a mí, sino al que me envió" (Marcos 9:37).

Pensé: "Jesús, de alguna manera debes estar en Robin". Tímidamente me aseguré de que no hubiera nadie más en la habitación, y luego hablé con voz clara: "Jesús, ¿estás ahí?" Robin no se volvió hacia mí y me dijo: "Hola, John. Sí, soy yo, Jesús". Seguía jugando con sus juguetes en silencio.

Pero algo cambió en mí. A partir de ese momento, fue más fácil estar con Robin, bromear con él, probar el lenguaje de señas con él, dejarlo ser él mismo y que yo fuera yo misma. Sus "discapacidades" ya no eran obstáculos a superar. Se convirtió en Robin, mi amigo.

¿Quién en tu vida parece extrañamente distante o incómodo para estar?

La próxima vez que lo veas, invoca en silencio el nombre de Jesús y observa cómo las barreras desaparecen en ti.

— *Father John Muir*

### YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

#### September 15, 2024

Sunday Collection .....	\$ 5,216.53
Vigil Candles.....	\$ 105.25
Helping Hands.....	\$ 20.00
STM School.....	\$ 735.00
Mass Intentions.....	\$ 15.00

*Second Collection Sept 28 - 29:*

*No Second Collection Next Week*



### 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*



**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*



**Extraordinary Ministers  
 of Holy Communion (EMHC)**

*and anyone interested in becoming one!*

Training is scheduled for Monday, Sept 30.  
 at 6:30 pm in the Church.

**This is for all current EMHCs...**  
*and those who want to be.*

*It will be bilingual, held by Fr. Ed.*



*Those who are currently serving and cannot attend,  
 please call the office to schedule a make-up meeting.*



**MAY SHE REST IN PEACE:**

May God comfort the family and friends of

**Marta Santiago Perez**

who passed away recently

Our sincere sympathy and assurances of prayers  
 are extended to Marta  
 and the Perez Family

**May she Rest in Peace.**

*(Services are scheduled at STM for Friday, October 18 -  
 Rosary @ 9:30 am; Mass @ 10 o'clock)*

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

Marcus & Erin Martinez, Co-Lead Couple  
 (210) 396-2813, Marcus.martinez05@yahoo.com  
 (210) 862-9741, sarahetamayo@gmail.com (210) 833-6373, emartinez@spxsa.org

**Register online at [lovestrongmarriage.com](http://lovestrongmarriage.com)**



**PRAY FOR  
 VOCATIONS**



**Are you  
 or someone you know  
 Divorced, Widowed, or  
 Separated and hurting?**



**In the Beginning... Coping with Life Alone**

is a one-day introductory program designed to help those who are grieving the loss of a spousal relationship due to death, divorce, or separation.

The program helps participants begin to deal with the loss and focus on what lies ahead.

It's a day of support for those who are seeking hope and healing.

While it is intended to assist those newly grieving, all are welcome to attend.

The session is scheduled for Sat, Oct 5, 2024  
 from 8:30 am to 4 pm at  
 St. Peter Upon the Water  
 234 Indian Creek Rd., Ingram, TX 78025.

cost is \$40.

Participants are asked to bring their own lunches; morning & afternoon drinks and snacks are provided.

For more information and to register:  
 contact Barbara at (210) 724-9269  
*(If no answer, please leave a message).*



**Healing Holidays  
 Making your Grief Count**



Grief during the Holidays is always challenging. The holiday season renews memories, family ties, and traditions. We become painfully aware that our loved one is no longer present, and the pain of the loss is confused with the spirit of the season making it difficult for families to navigate.

We live with an added layer of collective grief and vulnerability. Learning to navigate a changing world combined with the sorrow of our loss causes us to grieve on many levels.

How do we allow ourselves in these difficult times, to "make our grief count" and find our grounding?

This workshop will help identify internal and external resources that contribute to self-compassion and enhance resiliency. It will help families embrace their grief while strengthening characteristics of resilience.

Participants will use the holidays to discover how their loved one can live on into their life story, using this special time to continue to heal.

**When:** Wednesday, October 9, 2024

**Time:** 10:00 - 11:30 am

**Where:** St Thomas More Catholic Church  
 (Carolan Hall)

**Cost:** \$0. - no charge

**Presenter:** Porter Loring Bereavement Minister

**Please RSVP:**

Church Office (210) 655-5070

**PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY CRUSADE**

**In Honor of the 107<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the  
Miracle of the Sun  
that occurred October 13, 1917.**

**We pray our Rosary this Month to:  
Reach fallen-away Catholics,  
End Abortion, End Same-Sex marriage,  
End division in our country, and  
to bring our Lord into all schools!**



**You are invited to join us as we pray:**

*The Holy Rosary  
at the Grotto Outside the Rectory Office  
Saturday, October 5, 2024 @ Noon  
(if inclement weather we will move into the Church)*

Want More Information?  
Contact: David Barrera @ (210) 793-0794

**Take Up Your Cross**

I sometimes ask people: At the end of your life, when you meet God, what do you want to hear Him say?

I've gotten a lot of interesting answers: "I called and you listened."  
"What tee time would you like tomorrow?"  
"What were you thinking?"  
"Your service made things better."

It's a question I've thought a lot about, personally.

What I want to hear God say when I finally see His face is this: "*You can put it down now.*"

When Jesus asks his disciples "*Who do you say that I am?*" he was not just asking them to verbalize an answer. He was asking them to do something: pick up their cross... Find the problems in this world, in this life, throw your arms around them, and, drag them to God... even if it kills you.

It's not enough to stand by the sidelines, watching Christ ascend to Calvary, nodding your head in approval.

*Yes, I agree... Yes, I believe... Yes, Jesus, good job!*

You have to follow in every bloody footprint he leaves in the dust! Set your face like flint!

And when you meet him at the top, you better not be empty-handed. He has a cross... He will expect you to have one, too.

I hope that I can do it. I hope that I am strong enough. I am not one of those great, hardy souls.

I stumble terribly under the weight of my very small cross. I grumble as I shift it from shoulder to shoulder.

But every time I have been almost at the point of giving up, almost ready to lay it down, there is something — *Someone* — who supports my drooping arm. The Lord God is my help.

If, at the end of everything, I hear the words,

"*You can put it down now,*" then I will know I have made it.

I will know I have not failed: I took up the cross.

"*Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.*" Matthew 16:24

**San Antonio's 37<sup>th</sup> Annual**

**Life Chain SA**

CELEBRATE LIFE and the inestimable value of every human, born & preborn. UNITE FOR LIFE San Antonio!



Thou shall not kill. Exodus 20:13

**Sunday, October 6, 2024**

12-3:30 pm Music  
**12:15 pm Walk For Life** (police escort provided by SAPD)

1:15-1:45 pm Opening Prayer Ceremony | Speaker: **Mary Ann Parks** of Raphael's Way of Recovery

7430 San Pedro Avenue, SAT 78216 - Grassy Knoll at Park North Drive (Starts just inside Loop 410 on San Pedro, chain extends down to Basse Road)

**2-3 pm Human Life Chain** (security by Bexar Constable Pct3, Mark Vojvodich)

LIKE LifeChainSA on [www.facebook.com/LifeChainSA](http://www.facebook.com/LifeChainSA) & watch LIVE. Share your #LifeChainSA pictures on Social Media with hashtag [#LifeChainSA2024](https://twitter.com/LifeChainSA).

Life Chain is a peaceful, prayerful public witness of pro-life individuals standing for an hour praying for our nation, for the protection of women & children and an end to abortion. It is a visual statement of solidarity by the Judeo-Christian community that abortion harms women and kills children and that the church supports the sanctity of human life from the moment of conception until natural death.

Pick up Life Chain signs at 11:30 am in the old Sears parking lot area between Longhorn Steakhouse and Chipotle. Look for white San Antonio Family Association trailer.

Register for free and order #LifeChainSA t-shirts & caps at [LifeChainSA.com](http://LifeChainSA.com).

It's safe. Constables & Police present on site.

Volunteers and Co-Sponsors needed. Service Hours offered. **STAND FOR LIFE with your family! Teach your children. Love in action.**

DONATIONS of diapers, wipes, gently used baby clothes &/or cash donations for **Moms in Need** are greatly appreciated! Drop donations off at sign pickup/drop off location at the white trailer.

For more information: (210) 928-7232  
[www.LifeChainSA.com](http://www.LifeChainSA.com) [info@lifechainsa.com](mailto:info@lifechainsa.com)  
LifeChainSA @LifeChainSA LifeChainSA

*A Woman's Haven™*

**Pregnancy Crisis Center**

*"Are you passionately Pro-Life"*

**A Woman's Haven Pregnancy Crisis Center needs you!**

**We are busier than ever!**

**Workers are needed to serve women and their babies. Counselor, Nurse, & Receptionist positions are available.**

*We provide all training.*

For more information, Email:  
**Susan.perez@awomanshaven.org**

*"Be the change you wish to see in the world and light up the darkness."*

**This Week at Our Parish**

**Sunday, September 22, 2024**  
8:30 am KoC Breakfast / *Carolan Hall*  
10:00 am CDA Mass - *Church*

**Monday, September 23, 2024**

**Tuesday, September 24, 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 25, 2024**  
6:00 pm KC 4th Degree Monthly Mtg - *Carolan Hall*

**Thursday, September 16, 2024 -**  
6:00 pm Charismatic Prayer Grp - *Church*  
7:00 pm OCIA - *Rectory Mtg Room*

**Friday, September 27, 2024**  
9:00 am School NJHS Induction - *Church / Carolan Hall*  
12:00 pm Friday Adoration - *Church*  
7:00 pm Grupo de Oracion - *Church*

**Saturday, September 28, 2024**

**Sunday, September 29, 2024**

**Mass Intentions**

**Saturday, September 21, 2024**  
5:00 pm †Rafael Garza by Theresa Garza  
*STM Parishioners - Both Living and Deceased*

**Sunday, September 22, 2024**  
8:00 am †Viola de la Rosa & Dora Literio by Sylvia Roman  
*Health - Ramon Mata, Jr*  
10:00 am †Michael McDonald by the Trimmis  
†Steven Lee Waldron by Mom  
12:00 pm †Rafael Soria Anguiano & Jesus Cisneros Cisneros by Guadalupe Soria  
†Joaquin Bazan & Candelaria Villicuna by Isela Cisneros

**Monday, September 23, 2024**  
8:00 am *In Thanksgiving for Luis Cisneros* by Isela Cisneros

**Tuesday, September 24, 2024**  
8:00 am *Birthday - Perla Aline Flores* by Gonzalez Family

**Wednesday, September 25, 2024**  
8:00 am *Birthday - Alicia Saldiva* by Rosa Saldiva

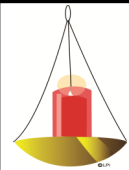
**Thursday, September 26, 2024**  
8:00 am *All Ordained Clergy and Religious*

**Friday, September 27, 2024**  
8:00 am †Vicente Khanh by Kim Nguyen

**Saturday, September 28, 2024**  
8:00 am †Rebecca Hartsfield  
5:00 pm †Joaquin Bazan and Candelaria Villicana by Isela Cisneros  
*In Thanksgiving to St. Jude* by Martha Arredondo

**Sunday, September 29, 2024**  
8:00 am *All Priests, Deacons, and Religious*  
10:00 am †Willard & Margaret O'Connor by Evancho Family  
*STM Parishioners - Both Living and Deceased*  
12:00 pm †Cecila Elizabeth Torres Montenegro by Gilbert Torres & Family  
†Kathryn Marie Sweet y Maria T. Sweet

**Sanctuary Light Intention:**  
*Robert Acosta*



**Lecturas de la Semana del 23 - 29 Sept**

**Lunes:** Prov 3:27-34; Sal 14:2-5; Lc 8:16-18

**Martes:** Prov 21:1-6,10-13;  
Sal 118:1,27,30,34,35,44; Lc 8:19-21

**Miércoles:** Prov 30:5-9; Sal 118:29,72,89,101,104,163;  
Lc 9:1-6

**Jueves:** Ecl 1:2-11; Sal 149:1-6,9; Lc 9:7-9

**Viernes:** Ecl 3:1-11; Sal 143:1-4; Lc 9:18-22

**Sábado:** Ecl 11:9-12:8; Sal 89:3-6,12-14,17;  
Lc 9:43-45

**Domingo:** Nm 11:25-29; Sal 18:8,10,12-14; Sant 5:1-6;  
Mc 9:38-43,45,47-48

**Readings for the week of Sept 23 - 29**

**Monday:** Prv 3:27-34; Ps 15:2-5; Lk 8:16-18

**Tuesday:** Prv 21:1-6,10-13;  
Ps 119:1,27,30,34,35,44; Lk 8:19-21

**Wednesday:** Prv 30:5-9;  
Ps 119:29,72,89,101,104,163; Lk 9:1-6

**Thursday:** Eccl 1:2-11; Ps 149:1-6,9b; Lk 9:7-9

**Friday:** Eccl 3:1-11; Ps 144:1-4; Lk 9:18-22

**Saturday:** Eccl 11:9-12:8; Ps 90:3-6,12-14,17;  
Lk 9:43b-45

**Sunday:** Nm 11:25-29; Ps 19:8,10,12-14;  
Jas 5:1-6; Mk 9:38-43,45,47-48

**CATHOLIC RADIO**

Get the best in Catholic programming!  
*'Tune-In' to the Guadalupe Radio Network!*  
1380 AM - Spanish or 89.7 FM - English

**Liturgical Roles**

**Saturday, September 28, 2024**  
5:00 pm **Altar Servers** - Volunteers  
**Eucharistic Ministers** - Dcn Rolando, R.Alvarado, M.Fisher, R.Saldiva, T.Garza  
**Lector** - M.Fisher

**Sunday, September 29, 2024**  
8 am **Altar Servers** - Mem.Planchon, Max.Planchon  
**Eucharistic Ministers** - Dcn Tim, Y.Cione, P.Klar, S.Trimm, M.Aguirre  
**Lector** - P.Klar

10 am **Altar Servers** - A.Mata, M.Pereida, B.Pereida  
**Eucharistic Ministers** - Dcn Tim, J+And.Perez, N.Lawson, Ali.Perez, P+R.Mendoza  
**Lector** - Ali.Perez

12 pm **Altar Servers** - A.Gomez, S.Obregon, A.Llanas  
**Eucharistic Ministers** - Dcn Jim, C.Hernandez, A.Chavez, H.Gomez, R.Gomez, M.Pina, C.Martinez  
**Lector** - D+F.Malacara



### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

ST. THOMAS MORE

Knights of Columbus Council # 7388  
meets 2nd Monday of each month  
at 7:00 p.m.  
For more information call  
Rick Briceño at 210-934-7017

Catholic Daughters of America #2683



Monthly Meeting:  
3rd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.  
Contact Regent

Belinda Trejiño at 210-275-6529

In Memory of  
The Leo Oswald &  
The Fred Lansing  
Families

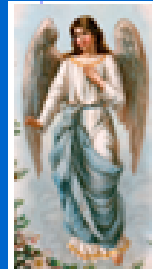


IN LOVING MEMORY  
OF REX A. BRIEN  
&  
MR. & MRS.  
HILDO CASTELLON

**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



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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.



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**HURTING AFTER AN ABORTION?**

hopeafterabortion.com  
210-342-4673

rachel@anewchoice.com

PROJECT RACHEL

Peace Starts Here



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

**St. Thomas More Guadalupe Society**  
Invite all men & women to our group.  
Our Monthly Meeting & Fellowship Meets:  
The 3rd Sunday of the month, after the  
8:00 a.m. Mass. For more information call  
**Will Torres at 210-620-2745**

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](mailto: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.



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

**Space Available Now!**  
**Call 210-655-5070**