

As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord

**St. Thomas More Catholic Church
21st Sunday In Ordinary Time
August 25, 2024**

**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:

The famous Russian novelist Fyodor Dostoyevsky said, "Love in action is a harsh and dreadful thing." In the Gospel reading this week, Jesus does something harsh and dreadful — he watches his own disciples abandon him. What could possibly be loving about that?

Well, we notice the context is Jesus' teaching about eating and drinking his body and blood. His followers hear this and say, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" (*John 6:60*). We shouldn't imagine we'd do anything different, because not even the ones who stay, like Peter, seem to understand what Jesus is saying. Then we hear this devastating line, "Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him" (*John 6:66*). Besides the night of the Last Supper, only now do Jesus' disciples abandon him. And, painfully, Jesus just lets them go.

The best way to make sense out of this is love. Jesus is God's love in action. He wants to become one with those whom He loves. He wants to love them as His own body. Yes, the oneness manifested in the Eucharist sounds harsh and dreadful because it is rooted in love which is willing to risk abandonment and separation to attain its goal: to be one body with the beloved. It is both terrifying and wonderful that Jesus will risk losing us in order to be one with us. Our response? Lord, we cannot grasp a love so great, but please help us never to abandon it, either.

— *Father John Muir*



Meditación del Evangelio:

El famoso novelista ruso Fiódor Dostoievski dijo: "El amor en acción es una cosa dura y terrible". En la lectura del Evangelio de esta semana, Jesús hace algo duro y terrible: ve a sus propios discípulos abandonarlo. ¿Qué podría haber de amoroso en eso?

Bueno, notamos que el contexto es la enseñanza de Jesús acerca de comer y beber su cuerpo y su sangre. Sus seguidores oyen esto y dicen: "Esta enseñanza es difícil; ¿Quién puede aceptarlo?" (*Juan 6:60*). No debemos imaginar que haríamos algo diferente, porque ni siquiera los que se quedan, como Pedro, parecen entender lo que Jesús está diciendo. Entonces escuchamos esta línea devastadora: "A causa de esto, muchos de sus discípulos se volvieron y ya no andaban con él" (*Juan 6:66*). Además de la noche de la Última Cena, sólo ahora los discípulos de Jesús lo abandonan. Y, dolorosamente, Jesús simplemente los deja ir.

La mejor manera de darle sentido a esto es el amor. Jesús es el amor de Dios en acción. Él quiere llegar a ser uno con aquellos a quienes ama. Él quiere amarlos como a Su propio cuerpo. Sí, la unidad manifestada en la Eucaristía suena dura y terrible porque está enraizada en el amor que está dispuesto a arriesgar el abandono y la separación para alcanzar su objetivo: ser un solo cuerpo con el amado. Es a la vez aterrador y maravilloso que Jesús se arriesgue a perdernos para ser uno con nosotros. ¿Nuestra respuesta? Señor, no podemos aprehender un amor tan grande, pero por favor ayúdanos a no abandonarlo nunca tampoco.

— *Father John Muir*

YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

August 18, 2024

Sunday Collection	\$ 4,744.86
Vigil Candles.....	\$ 112.75
STM School.....	\$ 879.72
Donations.....	\$ 60.00
Assumption of Mary.....	\$ 838.69
Mass Intentions.....	\$ 130.00
Bulletin Ads.....	\$ 75.00

*Second Collection Aug 31 - Sept 1:
to Support Facilities Improvement Fund*



MAY SHE REST IN PEACE:

May God comfort the family and friends of

Rebecca Hartsfield

who was called to her eternal reward this week

Our sincere sympathy and assurances of prayers
are extended to

Keith,
Emerson, Christopher, Aaron,
and the Hartsfield Family and Friends

May she Rest in Peace.



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

SPONSOR-a-KNIGHT

The average cost to educate a child in a Catholic school is \$7,000 per year. We, at STM, charge a tuition of \$4,600.

While we educate children from a variety of backgrounds, many families share a common denominator... lower income.

Many of our parents work 2 or 3 jobs to finance tuition... but half of our students still need financial aid.

We need your help so that we can continue to provide a Catholic Education to our families! STM families, parishioners, alumni, and friends have been invaluable in helping assist families touched by difficulties by making contributions to the Guardian Angel and/or Sponsor-a-Knight programs.

What better way than to provide for our own!

Please consider making a **TAX DEDUCTIBLE** donation to our *Guardian Angel* or *Sponsor-a-Knight* programs.

Contact the School Office (210) 655-2882 for more information.



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)



Pregnancy Crisis Center

"Are you passionately Pro-Life"

AWoman'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."

Question: *Do young children really need to go to Confession? How much sin can they have?*

Answer: Ask any mom about her children, and see how many would say she has a brood of perfect angels! Parents know that kids do things that are wrong ... and they often know they're doing it! Even toddlers have a sense of right and wrong. The Church recognizes that their minds and consciences are not yet fully developed, however, and typically waits until age seven to offer the sacrament of Confession. Around that age and beyond, most young people, when asked, can easily explain why something is wrong.

Confession for children is an excellent way to help them reflect on their actions and accept responsibility for their behavior. It helps them to grow in their understanding of sin and how it affects others. This helps them to form their consciences and make better choices in the future. Most importantly, they learn the value of forgiveness, both given and received. Rather than singling out what's wrong, Confession offers hope and a new start! Children can grow in understanding God's unconditional love and develop a sense of inner dignity that transcends their failings. Not bad for five minutes and an "Our Father" or two!



Registration for our Religious Education Classes Begins Soon!!

Registration will continue through August 30, 2024
in the parish office,
Monday-Friday 9am to 3pm.

Classes Begin as follows:

- English – September 8th
- Spanish – September 14th
- Confirmation – September 22nd

For more information, required documentation, or
general questions, please contact
Martha Guerra, DRE,
at the parish office at (210) 655-5070

Note: Masks in the classroom will be optional

¡La inscripción para nuestras clases de educación religiosa comienza pronto!

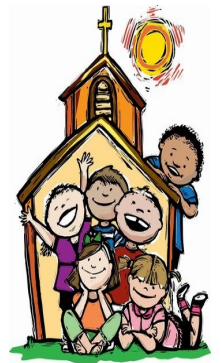
La inscripción continuará hasta el 30 de agosto de 2024
en la oficina parroquial,
de lunes a viernes de 9 am a 3 pm

Las clases empiezan de la siguiente manera:

- Inglés – 8^{de} septiembre
- Español – 14^{de} septiembre
- Confirmación – 22^{de} septiembre

Para más información, documentación requerida, o
preguntas generales, por favor contacte a
Martha Guerra, DRE,
en la oficina parroquial al (210) 655-5070

Nota: Las máscaras faciales en el salón serán opcionales.



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.)

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, or Atheist etc.)? And, just want to know more about Our Faith?
- I invite you to join us on Thursday evenings beginning September 5th at 7 pm (mark your calendar)
- 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



St. Vincent de Paul
Needs Your Help!

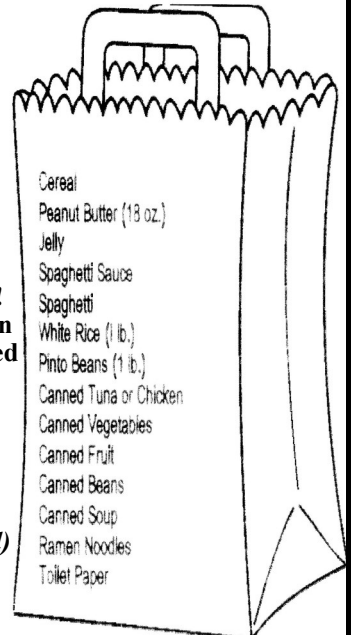
Your donations allow us to keep our shelves stocked.

By purchasing a few extra food items each week, you can make a difference in the lives of those who need help! The items listed are placed in food bags which those in need can get once every 30 days.

Food can be dropped off at SVdP at St Pius X - Mon, Wed or Fri from 10 am to 1 pm.

Every donation (big or small) is appreciated.

God Bless!



- Cereal
- Peanut Butter (18 oz.)
- Jelly
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Spaghetti
- White Rice (1 lb.)
- Pinto Beans (1 lb.)
- Canned Tuna or Chicken
- Canned Vegetables
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Beans
- Canned Soup
- Ramen Noodles
- Toilet Paper

This Week at Our Parish

Grupo de Oracion Chicharrones Sale - After All Masses
Sunday, August 25, 2024
 10:00 am CDA Mass - Church
Monday, August 26, 2024
Tuesday, August 27, 2024
 5:30 pm Divine Mercy - *Cancelled 'till September 3rd*
 6:30 pm Coro Alegria Choir Practice - *Rectory Mtg Room*
 7:00 pm Grupo de Oracion Choir Practice - Church
Wednesday, August 28, 2024
 6:00 pm KC 4th Degree Monthly Mtg- *Carolan Hall*
 7:00 pm Pastoral Council Meeting-*Rectory Mtg Room*
Thursday, August 29, 2024
 6:00 pm Charismatic Prayer Grp Fellowship - *Carolan Hall*
Friday, August 30, 2024
 9:00 am Friday Adoration - Church
 7:00 pm Grupo de Oracion - Church
Saturday, August 31, 2024
 8:00 am Grupo de Oracion Retreat - *Carolan Hall*
Sunday, September 1, 2024
 8:00 am Grupo de Oracion Retreat - *Carolan Hall*
 10:00 am KoC Mass - Church

Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 24, 2024
 5:00 pm †Rebecca Hartsfield
Birthday - Richard Perez by Dorothy Perez
STM Parishioners - Both Living and †Deceased

Sunday, August 25, 2024
 8:00 am †Esperanza Fernandez by Boudreaux / Perez Family
 †Felipa Camarillo by Guadalupanos
 10:00 am †Rebecca Hartsfield
 †Joe & Adelfa Ramirez by Edward Ramirez
 †M/M Edward Richter by Daughter
 †Rebecca Hartsfield
 12:00 pm †Beatriz Gonzalez Hernandez by Family
 †Rebecca Hartsfield
Special Intention for Luis Mendez by Mendez Family

Monday, August 26, 2024
 8:00 am †Michael McDonald by the Trimms
 †Olivia Corona by Diana Duran

Tuesday, August 27, 2024
 8:00 am †Rebecca Hartsfield

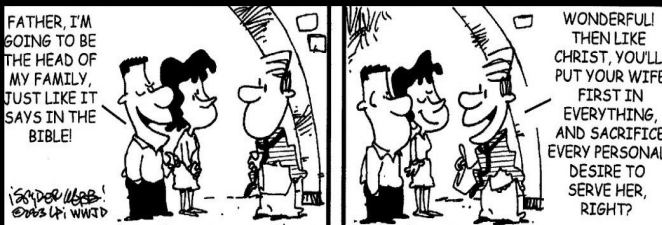
Wednesday, August 28, 2024
 8:00 am *Health - Deacon Rolando*

Thursday, August 29, 2024
 8:00 am †Baldemar Saldiva
All Ordained Clergy and Religious

Friday, August 30, 2024
 8:00 am †Rebecca Hartsfield
Special Intention for Luis Mendez by Mendez Family

Saturday, August 31, 2024
 8:00 am †Gregg and Melba Tatum
 5:00 pm †William Larson

Sunday, September 1, 2024
 8:00 am †Rodolfo Trevino Chapa by Elda Garcia
 †Richard Pansa, Jr by Norberto & Jeanette Pansa
 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



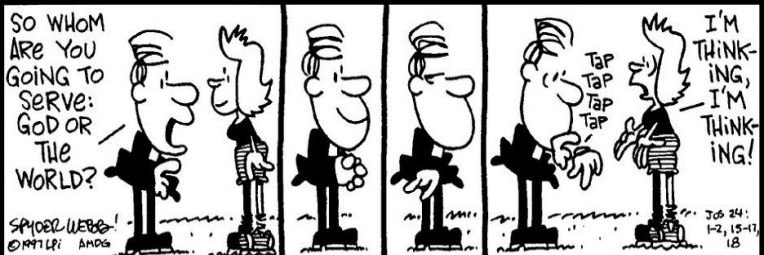
Sanctuary Light Intention:
Robert Acosta

Lecturas de la Semana del 26 Aug - 1 Sept

Lunes: 2Tes 1:1-5,11-12; Sal 95:1-5; Mt 23:13-22
Martes: 2Tes 2:1-3,14-17; Sal 95:10-13; Mt 23:23-26
Miércoles: 2Tes 3:6-10,16-18; Sal 127:1-2,4-5; Mt 23:27-32
Jueves: 1Cor 1:1-9; Sal 144:2-7; Mc 6:17-29
Viernes: 1Cor 1:17-25; Sal 32:1-2,4-5,10-11; Mt 25:1-13
Sábado: 1Cor 1:26-31; Sal 32:12-13,18-21; Mt 25:14-30
Domingo: Dt 4:1-2,6-8; Sal 14:2-5; Sant 2:1-5; Sant 1:17-18,21-22,27; Mc 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

Readings for the week of Aug 26 - Sept 1

Monday: 2Thes 1:1-5,11-12; Ps 96:1-5; Mt 23:13-22
Tuesday: 2Thes 2:1-3,14-17; Ps 96:10-13; Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday: 2Thes 3:6-10,16-18; Ps 128:1-2,4-5; Mt 23:27-32
Thursday: 1Cor 1:1-9; Ps 145:2-7; Mk 6:17-29
Friday: 1Cor 1:17-25; Ps 33:1-2,4-5,10-11; Mt 25:1-13
Saturday: 1Cor 1:26-31; Ps 33:12-13,18-21; Mt 25:14-30
Sunday: Dt 4:1-2,6-8; Ps 15:2-5; Jas 2:1-5; Jas 1:17-18,21-22,27; Mk 7:1-8,14-15,21-23



Liturgical Roles

Saturday, August 31, 2024
 5:00 pm **Altar Servers** - Volunteers
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Rolando, R.Saldiva, C.Lang, T.Guerrero, M.Fisher
Lector - T.Guerrero

Sunday, September 1, 2024
 8 am **Altar Servers** - Volunteers
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Tim, R.Davila, T.Garza, P.Klar, Y.Cione
Lector - Y.Cione

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

12 pm **Altar Servers** - S.Obregon, A.Gomez, A.Llanas
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Rolando, C.Hernandez, C.Martinez, A.Chavez, H.Gomez, R.Gomez, F.Hernandez
Lector - I.Hernandez / E.Licon



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 Briseño 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

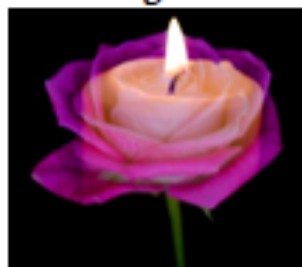


In Loving Memory
 of Joe Canales
 On behalf of
 The Canales Family
 Love Always



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 Guadalupans 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
WBI 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.

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

LAW OFFICE OF
 ARIANA RODRIGUEZ FERRAS, P.L.L.C.

- Immigration
 Inmigración
- Wills & Estate
 Planning
 Testamentos



☎ (210) 595-0954
 Call or Text - Por Teléfono o Texto
www.ariandeferras.com

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INFO@
ALLIEDWOMENSCENTER.ORG

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 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