

St. Thomas More Church

2510 So. Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, CA 91803
(626) 284-8333 Website: stmccatholicalhambra.org



Fifth Sunday of Lent Sunday, March 18, 2018

EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS WEEKLY LITURGIES

Saturday Vigil
5:00PM

Reconciliation
Saturday: 4:00-4:45PM

Sunday
7:30AM, 9:00AM, 12:30PM
10:45AM *Spanish*

English
Daily: Mon-Sat
8:30AM

Holy Day Masses
8:30AM, 7:00PM

Please contact the Parish Office for arrangements regarding
Baptisms, Funerals, and Quinceañeras



For Sacraments of Matrimony, please contact the
Parish Office six months prior to the date of the wedding

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday	9:00AM - 7:30PM	<i>Closed 1:00 - 2:00PM</i>
Friday	9:00AM - 7:00PM	<i>Closed 1:00 - 2:00PM</i>
Saturday	9:00AM - 1:00PM	

PARISH STAFF

Office: (626) 284-8333 Fax: (626) 282-4459

Administrator: Fr. Thai Le
(ext. 116) firthaile@yahoo.com

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Jeremiah O'Neill

Deacon Couple: Rogelio and Emilia Garcia
rogelio.emilia@hotmail.com (626) 705-1072

Safeguard the Children Contact: Mae Ho
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Director of Religious Education: Mae Ho
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Liturgy & Music Coordinator: Sr. Andrea Johnson
(ext. 137) stmmusiclit@gmail.com

Accounting Manager: Lucy Lai
(ext. 110) acct_stm@yahoo.com

Youth Ministry & Confirmation Coordinator: Francisco Ramos
stm lifeteenymc@gmail.com

Assistant Coordinator: Gabriella Ramos (ext. 135)

Parish Secretary: Lucia Alcantar
(ext. 141) stm_secretary@live.com

Parish Receptionist: Mimi Lewis

SCHOOL STAFF

School Office: (626) 284-5778 Fax: (626) 284-3303

Principal: Judy Jones (ext. 128)

Secretary: Mary Helen Lazo, (ext. 129)

School Website: stthomasmorealhambra.org

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — I will place my law within them and write it upon their hearts. (Jeremiah 31:31-34)

Psalm — Create a clean heart in me, O God (Psalm 51)

Second Reading — Christ became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him (Hebrews 5:7-9)

Gospel — If a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it produces much fruit (John 12:20-33)

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a
Tuesday:	Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-21; Jn 8:21-30
Wednesday:	Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56; Jn 8:31-42
Thursday:	Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-9; Jn 8:51-59
Friday:	Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42
Saturday:	Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-13; Jn 11:45-56
Sunday:	Mk 11:1-10

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — El Señor hará una nueva alianza con la casa de Israel. (Jeremías 31:31-34)

Salmo — Oh Dios, crea en mí un corazón puro (Salmo 51 [50])

Segunda lectura — Cristo aprendió obediencia, y los que ahora le obedecen encuentran en él la salvación eterna (Hebreos 5:7-9)

Evangelió — Si el grano de trigo cae en tierra y muere, da mucho fruto (Juan 12:20-33)

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes:	2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Sal 89 (88):2-5, 27, 29; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a
Martes:	Nm 21:4-9; Sal 102 (101):2-3, 16-21; Jn 8:21-30
Miércoles:	Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56; Jn 8:31-42
Jueves:	Gn 17:3-9; Sal 105 (104):4-9; Jn 8:51-59
Viernes:	Jer 20:10-13; Sal 18 (17):2-7; Jn 10:31-42
Sábado:	Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-13; Jn 11:45-56
Domingo:	Mc 11:1-10

Collections for 3/11/18

5:00 PM	\$693.00
7:30 AM	\$667.00
9:00 AM	\$836.00
10:45 AM	\$719.00
12:30 PM	\$1,024.00
By mail/online	\$505.00
Bldg Fund	\$1,594.00
Altar Society	\$11.00
Total	\$6,049.00

2nd Collection: \$1,099.00
Catholic Relief Services

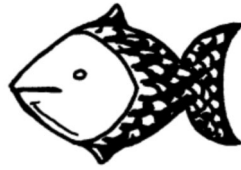
Thank You!
Gracias!

Stations of the Cross (Lent)

Every Friday 6:00pm Church

Lenten Soup

Every Friday 6:45 Hall



2018 Lenten Soup Supper

March 23rd – Asian Ministry, Mission Circle

STM second-year confirmation students will be going on their retreat next weekend. Please keep them and the retreat team in your prayers.

The Little Ones

Jim Burrows



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Scripture from the New American Bible, rev. ed. © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970, CCD. Used with permission.

EASTER FLOWERS

If you wish to donate potted flowers to decorate our church for Easter, please bring your plants between **Sunday, March 25, 2018, and Saturday morning, March 31, 2018.**

Please leave the plants on the counter in the children's room to the right of the altar, not on the altar. If you wish to make a monetary donation for plants or flowers, please use the flower envelopes.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.



Safeguard the Children



You can help children know they are understood

As parents, educators and volunteers, we want children to know that we are not only authority figures in their lives, but also people they can trust. To foster authentic trust with children, it is important that they know that you understand them. One of the simplest ways to do this is by repeating back what children are telling you. When you do this, you are affirming to the child that they are heard and understood.

For a copy of the complete VIRTUS® article "Modeling Good Communication" visit <http://www.la-archdiocese.org/org/protecting/Pages/VIRTUS-Current-Online-Articles.aspx>.

KoC Pancake Breakfast

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a complimentary pancake breakfast today, **Sunday, March 18th**, after all masses to thank the parishioners for their support during the year. We hope to see you there!

**Mission Circle
Bake Sale
New & Gently Used Sale**

Sunday March 25, 2018

After all the Masses at the Parish Hall

Drop off Saturday March 24, 2018

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the Parish Hall

Sunday Breakfast

Join us for Breakfast in the Hall



Pancake Breakfast

Sponsored by

The Knights of Columbus

CURRENT EVENTS

Saturday, March 17, 2018		
No Confessions	Church	
No Confirmation Class	Church	
Sunday, March 18, 2018		
8:30AM -2PM Pancake Breakfast	Hall	
No Religious Education Class		
Monday, March 19, 2018		
9:30AM Legion of Mary	Ministry Center	
7:00PM Youth Band Practice	Church	
Tuesday, March 20, 2018		
9:00AM - 9:30AM Our Lady of Wisdom Prayer Group	Church	
7:00PM Grupo de Oracion	Ministry Center	
7:45PM English Choir Practice	Church	
Wednesday, March 21, 2018		
9AM - 9:30AM Mother of Perpetual Help Novena	Church	
7:00PM Bible Study	Ministry Center	
Thursday, March 22, 2018		
6:30PM Youth Nights	Ministry Center	
8:00PM Spanish Choir Practice	Church	
Friday, March 23, 2018		
9AM - 1PM Eucharistic Adoration	Church	
6:00PM Stations of the Cross	Church	
6:45PM Soup Supper	Hall	
Saturday, March 24, 2018		
No Confessions		
No Confirmation Class		
7:00PM Ultreya Group	Ministry Center	
Sunday, March 25, 2018		
8:30AM -2PM Breakfast, Coffee & Donuts	Hall	
8AM -2PM Mission Circle New & Used Sale	Hall	
10:00AM No Religious Education Class		

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 17, 2018		
8:30 AM	Fr. Andrew	Helio & Olivia Altamirano: 55th Anniversary
4:00 PM	No Confessions	
5:00 PM	Fr. Thai	Patrick Yiu† Yee See Lipsun†
Sunday, March 18, 2018		
7:30 AM	Fr. Thai	Peter Sing Nguyen† Anna Bui†
9:00 AM	Fr. Henry	Hernani Ledesma† Dolores Harte†
10:45 AM	Fr. Val	Rafael Garcia Sr.†
12:30 PM	Fr. Thai	Alejandro & Henry Lipsun† Jeff Shaw: Healing
Monday, March 19, 2018		
8:30 AM	Fr. Thai	Jose Padilla†
Tuesday, March 20, 2018		
8:30 AM	Fr. Andrew	Maria Simon†
Wednesday, March 21, 2018		
8:30 AM	Fr. Donovan	Danilo Dionisio†
Thursday, March 22, 2018		
8:30 AM	Fr. Donovan	Bailey Family: Special Intentions
Friday, March 23, 2018		
8:30 AM	Fr. Thai	Lupe & Jose Martinez†
Saturday, March 24, 2018		
8:30 AM	Fr. Thai	Gina Lopez: Healing
4:00 PM	No Confessions	
5:00 PM	Fr. Thai	Patrick Yiu† Jasmin Jereza: Thanksgiving
Sunday, March 25, 2018		
7:30 AM	Fr. Thai	Anna Bui†
9:00 AM	Fr. Thai	Santos Mendiola†
10:45 AM	Fr. Donovan	Juan Garcia: Healing
12:30 PM	Fr. Donovan	George Kametani† Julia Roman†

Please Pray for the Sick

Fr. Jeremiah O'Neill		
A	Mariano Aoanan George Astacio Rosa Astacio Brianna Ayestas	G Edelle Gonzales Gavin Gutierrez Ricardo Gutierrez Carolina Guzman
B	Roy Barrientos Douglas Barquero Patricia Bernal Steven Brown Tod & Rose Marie Brown Brent Burley Ida Bustos	H Memo Herrera Sally Herrera I Selvia Inado J Darwin Jenkins Dennis James Johnson Gary Jones K Kimbra Fossen
C	Jessica Cabrera Rita Campanella Gloria Cancio S. Cano Burt Carranza Evelin Carranza Celia Carmona Erik M. Casillas Blanca & Procoro Castañeda Jessica Cerda Joan Cervantes Mary Louise Cruz	Theresa Kryszek L Bill Lamb Bertha La Barreda Anfrea Leija William Lievens James Lindgren Eleanor Lopez Brother Martin Lorenzini Francine Lozano Bonnie Luna Elvira Luna Rafael and Gerardo Luna
D	Roger Davila Julio Diaz Luz Santos Dicioco Jesus M. Dulay	M Gilbert Madrid Cely Magpantay Anna Maraldo Salvador Maldonado Edgardo Marin Santos Mendiola Francis Meyer Jean Miceli Tony Micelli James Montague Cheryl Morten
E	Malia Estrada	Eddie Souza
F	Ruth Fabela Pat Fernandez Tony Filosa Louis Finochio	U Leticia Ureno V Richard Valdes Michael Velasco Norma Villar Ricardo & Felicidad Villegas Therese Huyen-Duong Thi Vu Theresa Mai Vu
G	Mariano G. Lupe Galvan Juan Garcia Ramona Garcia Daniela Garcia de la Rosa Alyce Gold Adela Gonzalez	W Martha Willox Janny Wong Jennifer Wong Z Christine Zampese

Pray for the Dead

Lupe Dominguez	Andrea Lozano
Vera Dueñas	Santos Mendiola
George Kametani	Finbarr O'Neill
Yee See Lipsun	Myrtle Small



Hello!

Imagine you want to cook a pot of chicken noodle soup. There are several ingredients you need such as chicken, noodles, carrots, onions, salt, potatoes, and celery. You would mix the ingredients in a pot and cook them. Once cooked, the individual ingredients give up their flavors to become something else – a delicious chicken soup!

This principle applies to human nature: To gain greater value, we need to give up something of lesser value. If we like to have better things and to improve our lives, we need to work hard and save money to buy them. Of athletes want to achieve a higher level of performance, then they need to spend time practicing being better. We just can't fulfill our desires by doing nothing.

Today's Gospel illustrates this law of sacrifice. The image of the sowing wheat grain into the ground helps us to understand Jesus' sacrifice. Jesus is the wheat-grain that God, the Father, planted into the world. Jesus accepted His death at the hands of humans. The earthy authority and power thought they eradicated him. Instead of destruction, they helped him win! Through the cross, Jesus conquered death, was risen in glory, and reigns forever. Thus, no power of darkness in the world can be more powerful than His glory.

Jesus does not want us to live like a single grain of wheat on an isolated island – only living for one's self and eventually dying. He has always invited us to follow Him to be part of the faith family and to convert, humbly, a hundredfold through simple words and actions. To be Christ-like means to give up some of one's self to become part of a bigger whole – for the sake of others and kingdom of God.

On the other spectrum, I hear people say all the time, "Since Jesus has already died for me on the Cross, I will go to heaven after this earthy life anyway. Why should I bother to try!" This presumption is just like saying, "God owes me eternal life; I deserve it!" Have we earned eternal life on our own? The answer is "No!" Whatever we do we can never earn salvation on our own. It comes from God's love and mercy for us. Our salvation requires us to respond to His gift and to follow His direction.

The Lenten period is a time to follow Jesus' direction. His direction is laid out in today's Gospel. Jesus died for me so I can live! When receiving things that are good, we show our gratitude; that is our nature. We could send flowers, a handwritten thank you card, a note of appreciation, a text message, or we can just say "thank you!" How often do we show our appreciation to Jesus for dying on the cross for us? That best of opportunity for us to say "thank you" to Him is at the Eucharistic Celebration. It takes effort each week to come to Jesus; we *give up* our gasoline, duties, pleasure time, and ego to approach the Altar of Our Lord. We let go of these things because Jesus had prepared a place for us as we prepare our hearts for Him.

To let go of one's habit and pride to participate within communities such as families, groups, or faith communities can be challenging for some of us: We cannot easily subdue our human nature. Lent is time to pray for the courage to let go of whatever prevents us from doing great things for God and others.

God bless!

Fr. Thai

¡Hola!

Imagina que quieres cocinar una olla de sopa de pollo con fideos. Hay varios ingredientes que necesita, como pollo, fideos, zanahorias, cebollas, sal, patatas y apio. Mezclar los ingredientes en una olla y cocinarlos. Una vez cocinados, los ingredientes individuales renuncian a sus sabores para convertirse en otra cosa: ¡una deliciosa sopa de pollo!

Este principio se aplica a la naturaleza humana: para obtener un mayor valor, debemos renunciar a algo de menor valor. Si queremos tener mejores cosas y mejorar nuestras vidas, tenemos que trabajar duro y ahorrar dinero para comprarlas. De los atletas quieren alcanzar un mayor nivel de rendimiento, entonces necesitan pasar más tiempo practicando para ser mejores. Simplemente no podemos cumplir nuestros deseos al no hacer nada.

El Evangelio de hoy ilustra esta ley del sacrificio. La imagen de la siembra de grano de trigo en el suelo nos ayuda a entender el sacrificio de Jesús. Jesús es el grano de trigo que Dios, el Padre, plantó en el mundo. Jesús aceptó su muerte a manos de los humanos. La autoridad y el poder terrenales pensaron que lo habían erradicado. ¡En lugar de destrucción, lo ayudaron a ganar! A través de la cruz, Jesús conquistó la muerte, resucitó en gloria y reina para siempre. Por lo tanto, ningún poder de las tinieblas en el mundo puede ser más poderoso que su gloria.

Jesús no quiere que vivamos como un solo grano de trigo en una isla aislada, solo viviendo para uno mismo y finalmente muriendo. Él siempre nos ha invitado a seguirlo para ser parte de la familia de la fe y convertir, humildemente, cien veces mediante simples palabras y acciones. Ser como Cristo significa renunciar a uno mismo para convertirse en parte de un todo más grande, por el bien de los demás y el reino de Dios.

En el otro espectro, escucho a la gente decir todo el tiempo: "Ya que Jesús ya murió por mí en la Cruz, iré al cielo después de esta vida terrenal de todos modos. ¡Por qué debería molestarme en intentarlo! "Esta presunción es como decir:" Dios me debe la vida eterna; Me lo merezco! "¿Hemos ganado la vida eterna por nosotros mismos? La respuesta es "¡No!" Hagas lo que hagamos, nunca podremos ganar la salvación por nuestra cuenta. Viene del amor y la misericordia de Dios para nosotros. Nuestra salvación requiere que respondamos a su don y sigamos su dirección.

El período de Cuaresma es un tiempo para seguir la dirección de Jesús. Su dirección se presenta en el Evangelio de hoy. ¡Jesús murió por mí para que yo pueda vivir! Cuando recibimos cosas que son buenas, mostramos nuestra gratitud; esa es nuestra naturaleza. Podríamos enviar flores, una tarjeta de agradecimiento escrita a mano, una nota de agradecimiento, un mensaje de texto, o simplemente podemos decir "¡gracias!". ¿Con qué frecuencia mostramos nuestro agradecimiento a Jesús por morir en la cruz por nosotros? Esa es la mejor oportunidad para que le digamos "gracias" a Él en la Celebración Eucarística. Se necesita esfuerzo cada semana para venir a Jesús; renunciamos a nuestra gasolina, deberes, tiempo de placer y ego para acercarnos al Altar de Nuestro Señor. Dejamos ir estas cosas porque Jesús había preparado un lugar para nosotros mientras preparamos nuestros corazones para él.

Dejar de lado el hábito y el orgullo de las personas para participar en comunidades tales como familias, grupos o comunidades de fe puede ser un desafío para algunos de nosotros: no podemos dominar fácilmente nuestra naturaleza humana. La Cuaresma es tiempo de orar por el coraje de dejar ir lo que sea que nos impide hacer grandes cosas para Dios y para los demás.

¡Dios bendiga!

P. Thai