

St. Thomas More Church

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

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday, September 17th 2017



EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS WEEKLY LITURGIES

Saturday Vigil
5:00PM

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

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

Reconciliation
Saturday: 4:00-4:45PM

English
Daily: Mon-Sat
8:30AM

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
(ext. 139) or (626) 457-5302 stmdrealhambra@gmail.com

Director of Religious Education: Mae Ho
(ext. 139) or (626) 457-5302 stmdrealhambra@gmail.com

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 — Remember the commandments and hate not your neighbor (Sirach 27:30 — 28:9).

Psalm — The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in compassion (Psalm 103).

Second Reading — Whether we live, or whether we die, we do so for the Lord (Romans 14:7-9).

Gospel — Forgive one another from your heart (Matthew 18:21-35).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	1 Tm 2:1-8; Ps 28:2, 7-9; Lk 7:1-10
Tuesday:	1 Tm 3:1-13; Ps 101:1b-3ab, 5-6; Lk 7:11-17
Wednesday:	1 Tm 3:14-16; Ps 111:1-6; Lk 7:31-35
Thursday:	Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Ps 19:2-5; Mt 9:9-13
Friday:	1 Tm 6:2c-12; Ps 49:6-10, 17-20; Lk 8:1-3
Saturday:	1 Tm 6:13-16; Ps 100:1b-5; Lk 8:4-15
Sunday:	Is 55:6-9; Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18; Phil 1:20c-24, 27a; Mt 20:1-16a

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — No podemos fomentar el rencor y esperar que se nos perdonen nuestros pecados (Sirácide 27:30 — 28:7).

Salmo — El Señor es bondadoso y misericordioso, lento a la ira y rico en compasión (Salmo 103(102)).

Segunda lectura — Ya sea que vivamos o muramos, lo hacemos en Cristo (Romanos 14:7-9).

Evangelio — Jesús dice que debemos perdonar no sólo siete veces sino setenta veces siete veces (Mateo 18:21-35).

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes:	1 Tim 2:1-8; Sal 28 (27):2, 7-9; Lc 7:1-10
Martes:	1 Tim 3:1-13; Sal 101 (100):1b-3ab, 5-6; Lc 7:11-17
Miércoles:	1 Tim 3:14-16; Sal 111 (110):1-6; Lc 7:31-35
Jueves:	Ef 4:1-7, 11-13; Sal 19 (18):2-5; Mt 9:9-13
Viernes:	1 Tim 6:2c-12; Sal 49 (48):6-10, 17-20; Lc 8:1-3
Sábado:	1 Tim 6:13-16; Sal 100 (99):1b-5; Lc 8:4-15
Domingo:	Is 55:6-9; Sal 145 (144):2-3, 8-9, 17-18; Fil 1:20c-24, 27a; Mt 20:1-16a

Collections for 9/10/17

5:00 PM	\$809.00
7:30 AM	\$1,052.00
9:00 AM	\$1,364.00
10:45 AM	\$590.00
12:30 PM	\$748.00
By mail/online	\$1,480.00
Bldg Fund	\$2,520.00
Special Projects	\$20.00
Air Conditioning	\$12.00
Altar Society	\$61.00
Total	\$8,656.00

2nd Collection: \$3,395.00
Hurricane Harvey Victims

THANK YOU!

GRACIAS!

CONFIRMATION CLASSES
Registration

The Youth Office is open:

Monday/Thursday 3-7 PM, and
Tuesday/Wednesday 3-5 PM

Registration forms are also available in the Rectory from 9am-5pm.

Requirements:

- Students must be in high school
- Baptismal certificate (copy)
- First Communion certificate (copy)
- \$50 deposit

Religious Education and RCIA
Registration

Registration is available for religious education classes (grades 1-8) and RCIA:

- Sundays after all the Masses
- Mon to Thu at the O'Neill Ministry Center, 10:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

For religious education;
please bring a copy of the Baptism certificate.

For RCIA;
please bring your sacramental certificates.

Anyone interested in teaching catechism please contact Mae at (626) 284-8333 x 139 or stmdrealhambra@gmail.com.

Christmas Boutique

St. Thomas More Church Hall
Sunday November 12, 2017
8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Looking for Vendors

We are looking for vendors selling holiday crafts or items.

To reserve a spot, please call the rectory at 626-284-8333

San Manuel Indian Casino

Saturday, September 30, 2017

Depart STM: 10:00 AM

Depart Casino: 4:30 PM



Join us for a fun-filled trip to San Manuel Indian Casino to raise funds for St Thomas More Church

Donation amount is \$25.00 per person

Includes: \$10 player's credit, bus transportation, light snacks during trip and driver's tip

For reservations and information, please contact:

Lilly Carlisle (626) 485-4734

Luna Soriano (323)528-5102

Sunday Breakfast

Coffee & Donuts



Sponsored by the Proud Parents of STM Kindergarten & 8th Grade Students

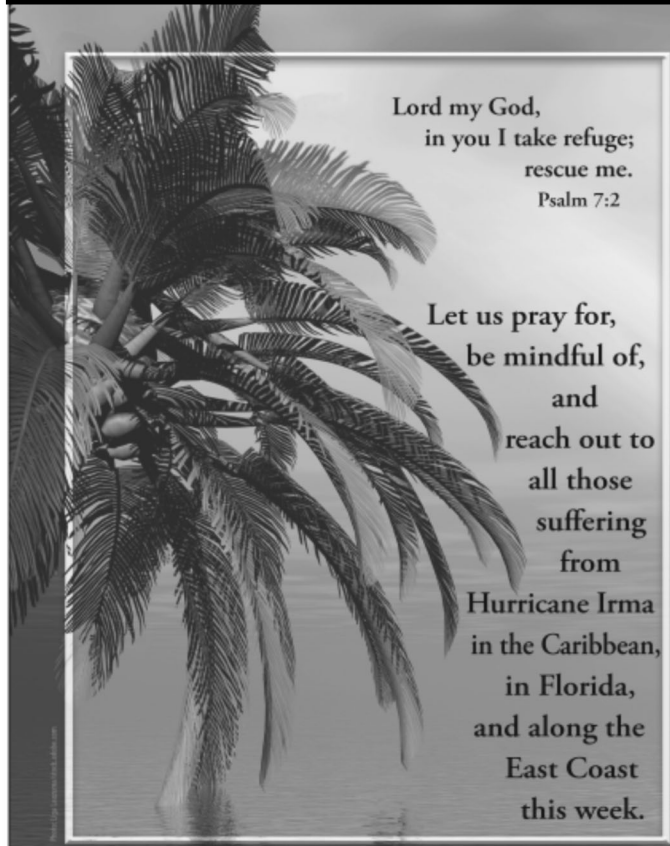


find us on
Facebook

www.facebook.com/StThomasMoreAlhambra

Lord my God,
in you I take refuge;
rescue me.
Psalm 7:2

Let us pray for,
be mindful of,
and reach out to
all those
suffering
from
Hurricane Irma
in the Caribbean,
in Florida,
and along the
East Coast
this week.



CURRENT EVENTS

Saturday, September 16, 2017		
Sunday, September 17, 2017		
8 AM - 2 PM	Breakfast	Hall
Monday, September 18, 2017		
9:30 AM	Legion of Mary	Ministry Center
7:30 - 9 PM	Youth Band Practice	Church
Tuesday, September 19, 2017		
9 - 9:30 AM	Our Lady of Wisdom Prayer Group	Church
7 PM	Grupo de Oracion	Ministry Center
7:45 PM	English Choir Practice	Church
Wednesday, September 20, 2017		
9 - 9:30 AM	Mother of Perpetual Help Novena	Church
7 PM	Bible Study	Ministry Center
Thursday, September 21, 2017		
6:30 - 9 PM	Youth Nights	Ministry Center
8 PM	Spanish Choir Practice	Church
Friday, September 22, 2017		
9 AM - 1 PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Church
Saturday, September 23, 2017		
6 PM	Confirmation Parent Meeting	Hall
Sunday, September 24, 2017		
8 AM - 2 PM	Breakfast	Hall

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 16, 2017		
8:30AM	Fr. Donovan	Trinidad R. Santos†
4:00PM	Fr. Thai	Confessions
5:00PM	Fr. Thai	Patrick Yiu† Hector Ortega Jr.†
Sunday, September 17, 2017		
7:30AM	Fr. Thai	Peter Sinh Nguyen† Jasmine & Romero Condes: Thanksgiving
9:00AM	Fr. O'Neill	Jose D. Co Ting M.D.† Rufino R. Santos Jr.†
10:45AM	Fr. Thai	Francisco Sanchez†
12:30PM	Fr. Henson	Carlos Quezada: Birthday
Monday, September 18, 2017		
8:30AM	Fr. Thai	Parishioners of STM
Tuesday, September 19, 2017		
8:30AM	Fr. Thai	Concepcion Ortega†
Wednesday, September 20, 2017		
8:30AM	Fr. O'Neill	John Baptist Huang† Salvador Baldoza†
Thursday, September 21, 2017		
8:30AM	Fr. Donovan	Fr. John Moon Kun Lee†
Friday, September 22, 2017		
8:30AM	Fr. Thai	Salvador Baldoza†
Saturday, September 23, 2017		
8:30AM	Fr. Thai	Maria Gladiola Gadia† Edward Medina†
4:00PM	Fr. Thai	Confessions
5:00PM	Fr. Thai	Patrick Yiu† Maxima Valdez†
Sunday, September 24, 2017		
7:30AM	Fr. Peter	Peter Sinh Nguyen† John McKenzie†
9:00AM	Fr. Thai	Ana Zenzola†
10:45AM	Fr. Donovan	Rafael Garcia Jr.† Francisco Guerrero†
12:30PM	Fr. Thai	Frank Cruz† Mary Louise Cruz: Healing

Please Pray for the Sick

Fr. Jeremiah O'Neill

A Anita Alderete	G Alyce Gold	P Laura Pagano
Mariano Aoanan	Edelle Gonzales	Tony Pagliotti
George Astacio	Gavin Gutierrez	Sharon Palmiter
Rosa Astacio	Ricardo Gutierrez	Arpie Pezeshkian
Brianna Ayestas	Carolina Guzman	R Dolores Ramirez
B Roy Barrientos	H Memo Herrera	Rosalia Rodriguez
Douglas Barquero	Sally Herrera	Maria Rosa Ramirez
Patricia Bernal	I Selvia Inado	Ramon Ramos
Andy Bouffard	J Darwin Jenkins	Julieta Reta
Louie Bouffard	Dennis James Johnson	Jean Reyes Williams
Steven Brown	Gary Jones	Maria T. Riley
Tod & Rose	K Mary Keffer	Armando & Maria Rivera
Marie Brown	Kimbra Fossen	Domenic Rizzi
Ida Bustos	Theresa Kryszek	Michael Angelo Rodriguez
C Jessica Cabrera	L Bill Lamb	Mike Romano
Rita Campanella	Bertha La Barreda	Ana Romo
Gloria Cancio	Anfrea Leija	Virginia Rosales
S. Cano	William Lievens	Alissa Roybal
Burt Carranza	James Lindgren	S Mason Saldaña
Evelin Carranza	Yee See Lipsun	Francisco Sanchez
Celia Carmona	Eleanor Lopez	Virginia Sanchez
Erik M. Casillas	Brother Martin	Sisi Shum
Blanca & Procoro	Lorenzini	Uldarica Sison
Castañeda	Bonnie Luna	Eddie Souza
Jessica Cerda	Elvira Luna	Rafael & Gerardo Luna
Joan Cervantes	Mary Louise Cruz	Dorian Suarez
D Roger Davila	M Gilbert Madrid	U Leticia Ureno
Jesus M. Dulay	Cely Magpantay	V Richard Valdes
E Maria Endara	Anna Maraldo	Michael Velasco
Malia Estrada	Salvador Maldonado	Norma Villar
F Ruth Fabela	Edgardo Marin	Ricardo & Felicidad Villegas
Pat Fernandez	Francis Meyer	Therese Huyen-Duong Thi Vu
Tony Filosa	Jean Miceli	Theresa Mai Vu
G Mariano G.	James Montague	W Martha Willox
Juan Garcia	N Gloria Natividad	Janny Wong
Ramona Garcia	Mario Nieto	Jennifer Wong
Daniela Garcia de la Rosa	Huy Nguyen	Z Christine Zampese
	Sinh Nguyen	

Pray for the Dead

Josephine Barrera	Peter Sinh Nguyen
Isaiah Gabriel Gutierrez	Ernesto Perez
Francisco Ramon Montiel	Clare Ryan
Carey Nakayama	Cornelio Sanga Sr.



Hello!

Many of us know that letting go of painful memories is the *right* thing to do. Painful memories burden us with resentment, bitterness, guilt, anger, or isolation. Thus, letting go of such memories improves our personality and future. However, *forgiveness* is the most difficult thing to do, especially when it comes to forgiving someone who has hurt us.

Our tendency when someone wrongs us is to replay their images, words, and attitudes in our minds. Even if someone harms other people we care about, we dwell on the offenses committed. No matter what we believe, those negative emotions and memories will always accompany us, and they become part of our earthly journey.

Realizing reality of such trespasses by others and the complexities of forgiveness, Peter presents these concerns to Jesus, as recorded in today's Gospel. Our Lord Jesus Christ replies that forgiveness is a life-long commitment: When we forgive others, we, in turn, receive God's forgiveness and mercy. If we choose not to forgive others, we are also rejecting His mercy. Without God's forgiveness and mercy, we cannot enjoy His gift of everlasting life!

When we refuse to forgive someone, we are not *free* at all. Instead, we focus on our anger and live with it. Thus, we refuse to come to the place where the person that wronged us will be around! We may study the individual's schedules to avoid being near them. In other words, we are passively re-living a painful past. Is that the lifestyle we want, or to pass such pain on to next generation?

In fact, our brain functions like a copy machine: It captures and records the images that we have witnessed. They are stored in our nervous system. If we decide to hold on to what had happened to us, we spend tremendous time and energy investing in anger, resentment, and bitterness. These are the seeds that will grow each day in our minds and hearts. We can get stuck experiencing the painful presence of these negative emotions! Ironically, these feelings have nothing to do with the person that hurt us. These are our feelings, bound to us, and we can't enjoy life while we embrace them. We should strive to build a better life and become the joyful people that God has always wanted us to be.

To free our lives from the bondage of the past, we need to forgive others – and ourselves. The first step of forgiveness is *acceptance*: That is, someone has hurt us. We cannot pretend nothing happened! We must *acknowledge* the damage; to us, our families, or others we care about. To move forward, we must accept that resentment, bitterness, or revenge cannot change what had happened. The truth is, we can't change another person. What we can change is our own perception and behavior. We can tell ourselves that the harm done belongs to the past. The present is the time to free ourselves from those past wounds. This, of course, takes courage, persistence, and prayer.

We are obligated to forgive others, *indefinitely*. Humanly speaking, it is impossible to forgive others who wrong us badly. Spiritually speaking, we have God's power and mercy that are stronger than our mistakes and vulnerabilities. Through God, we can be free from the bondage of past wrongs and learn how to forgive. If we can't learn to forgive others, we cannot experience God's forgiveness and mercy. Living without forgiveness is not a healthy life; physically, mentally and spiritually.

A practical approach for forgiveness is to repeat this phrase: "*I do not allow any hurtful memories of the past that try to let me down. With God's grace and strength, I let go of my past wounds.*" Have faith in God's power. God alone will lift us up and provide us with a healthy future. Only then can we make positive changes to our perception, and our future!

God bless!

Fr. Thai

¡Hola!

Muchos de nosotros sabemos que abandonar los recuerdos dolorosos es lo correcto. Los recuerdos dolorosos nos cargan con resentimiento, amargura, culpa, enojo o aislamiento. Por lo tanto, dejar ir de tales recuerdos mejora nuestra personalidad y futuro. Sin embargo, el perdón es lo más difícil de hacer, especialmente cuando se trata de perdonar a alguien que nos ha hecho daño.

Nuestra tendencia cuando alguien nos hace mal es reproducir sus imágenes, palabras y actitudes en nuestras mentes. Incluso si alguien daña a otras personas que nos importan, nos detenemos en los delitos cometidos. No importa lo que creamos, esas emociones y recuerdos negativos siempre nos acompañarán, y se convertirán en parte de nuestro viaje terrenal.

Al darse cuenta de la realidad de tales transgresiones por parte de los demás y de las complejidades del perdón, Pedro presenta estas preocupaciones a Jesús, como se registra en el Evangelio de hoy. Nuestro Señor Jesucristo responde que el perdón es un compromiso de por vida: Cuando perdonamos a los demás, recibimos el perdón y la misericordia de Dios. Si elegimos no perdonar a otros, también estamos rechazando Su misericordia. ¡Sin el perdón y la misericordia de Dios, no podemos disfrutar de Su regalo de la vida eterna!

Cuando nos negamos a perdonar a alguien, no somos libres en absoluto. En cambio, nos centramos en nuestra ira y vivimos con ella. ¡Por lo tanto, nos negamos a venir al lugar donde la persona que nos perjudicó será alrededor! Podemos estudiar los horarios del individuo para evitar estar cerca de ellos. En otras palabras, estamos reviviendo pasivamente un pasado doloroso. ¿Es ese el estilo de vida que queremos, o pasar tal dolor a la próxima generación?

De hecho, nuestro cerebro funciona como una máquina de copiar: captura y registra las imágenes que hemos presenciado. Se almacenan en nuestro sistema nervioso. Si decidimos aferrarnos a lo que nos había pasado, pasamos mucho tiempo y energía invirtiendo en ira, resentimiento y amargura. Estas son las semillas que crecerán cada día en nuestras mentes y corazones. ¡Podemos quedar atrapados experimentando la dolorosa presencia de estas emociones negativas! Irónicamente, estos sentimientos no tienen nada que ver con la persona que nos lastimó. Estos son nuestros sentimientos, ligados a nosotros, y no podemos disfrutar de la vida mientras los abrazamos. Debemos esforzarnos por construir una vida mejor y convertirnos en la gente alegre que Dios siempre quiso que fuéramos.

Para liberar nuestras vidas de la esclavitud del pasado, necesitamos perdonar a los demás ya nosotros mismos. El primer paso del perdón es la aceptación: es decir, alguien nos ha hecho daño. ¡No podemos fingir que nada sucedió! Debemos reconocer el daño; a nosotros, a nuestras familias u otros a quienes nos preocupamos. Para avanzar, debemos aceptar que el resentimiento, la amargura o la venganza no pueden cambiar lo que había sucedido. La verdad es que no podemos cambiar a otra persona. Lo que podemos cambiar es nuestra propia percepción y comportamiento. Podemos decirnos que el daño hecho pertenece al pasado. El presente es el momento de liberarnos de las heridas pasadas. Esto, por supuesto, requiere coraje, persistencia y oración.

Estamos obligados a perdonar a los demás, indefinidamente. Humanamente hablando, es imposible perdonar a otros que nos maltratan mal. Hablando espiritualmente, tenemos el poder y la misericordia de Dios que son más fuertes que nuestros errores y vulnerabilidades. A través de Dios, podemos estar libres de la esclavitud de los errores pasados y aprender a perdonar. Si no podemos aprender a perdonar a los demás, no podemos experimentar el perdón y la misericordia de Dios. Vivir sin perdón no es una vida sana; física, mental y espiritualmente.

Un enfoque práctico para el perdón es repetir esta frase: "No permito que recuerdos dolorosos del pasado que tratan de dejarme caer. Con la gracia y la fuerza de Dios, dejé ir mis heridas pasadas. ¡Tengan fe en el poder de Dios. Sólo Dios nos elevará y nos proporcionará un futuro saludable. ¡Sólo entonces podemos hacer cambios positivos a nuestra percepción, y nuestro futuro!

¡Dios bendiga!

P. Thai