

St. Thomas More Church

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

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday, September 24th 2017



EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS WEEKLY LITURGIES

Saturday Vigil 5:00PM	Reconciliation Saturday: 4:00-4:45PM
Sunday 7:30AM, 9:00AM, 12:30PM 10:45AM <i>Spanish</i>	<i>English</i> Daily: Mon-Sat 8:30AM
Holy Day Masses 8:30AM, 7:00PM	

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

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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 — Turn to the LORD, who is generous in forgiving (Isaiah 55:6-9).
Psalm — The Lord is near to all who call upon him (Psalm 145).
Second Reading — Live your lives in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ (Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a).
Gospel — The last will be first, and the first will be last (Matthew 20:1-16a).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Ezr 1:1-6; Ps 126:1b-6; Lk 8:16-18
Tuesday: Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Ps 122:1-5; Lk 8:19-21
Wednesday: Ezr 9:5-9; Tb:13:2, 3-4abefghn, 7-8; Lk 9:1-6
Thursday: Hg 1:1-8; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Lk 9:7-9
Friday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a; Ps 138:1-5; Jn 1:47-51
Saturday: Zac 2:5-9, 14-15a; Jer 31:10-12ab, 13; Lk 9:43b-45
Sunday: Ez 18:25-28; Ps 25:4-9; Phil 2:1-11 [1-5]; Mt 21:28-32

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — Así como el cielo está muy alto por encima de la tierra, así son los caminos y los pensamientos de Dios sobre los nuestros (Isaías 55:6-9).
Salmo — El Señor está cerca de todos los que lo llaman (Salmo 145 [144]).
Segunda lectura — Cristo se magnificará a través de mí, sea que yo viva o que muera (Filipenses 1:20c-24, 27a).
Evangelió — Los últimos serán los primeros y los primeros serán los últimos (Mateo 20:1-16a).

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: Esd 1:1-6; Sal 126 (125):1b-6; Lc 8:16-18
Martes: Esd 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Sal 122 (121):1-5; Lc 8:19-21
Miércoles: Esd 9:5-9; Tob:13:2, 3-4abefghn, 7-8; Lc 9:1-6
Jueves: Ag 1:1-8; Sal 149:1b-6a, 9b; Lc 9:7-9
Viernes: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 o Apo 12:7-12a; Sal 138 (137):1-5; Jn 1:47-51
Sábado: Zac 2:5-9, 14-15a; Jer 31:10-12ab, 13; Lc 9:43b-45
Domingo: Ez 18:25-28; Sal 25 (24):4-9; Fil 2:1-11 [1-5]; Mt 21:28-32

Collections for 9/17/17	
5:00 PM	\$777.00
7:30 AM	\$825.00
9:00 AM	\$1,665.00
10:45 AM	\$570.00
12:30 PM	\$852.00
By mail/online	\$378.00
Bldg Fund	\$260.00
Special Projects	\$226.00
Altar Society	\$16.00
Total	\$5,569.00
2nd Collection:	
Faith Formation	\$543.00

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

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

Mission Circle

Bake Sale

New & Gently Used Sale

Sunday October 8th, 2017

After all the Masses at the Parish Hall

Drop off Saturday October 7th, 2017

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



Safeguard the Children



Pay attention to your surroundings to prevent child abuse

As a caring adult, you scope out potential dangers in the areas where a child may be for school, birthday parties, playdates, outings with friends, etc. Another danger to add to your list is the potential for a child to be lured away into a private area by a predator. Abuse can happen anywhere, even in the most public of places, and parents should be aware of any secluded spots that a predator might use. Avoid spaces where a predator could take action – turn on lights, check empty rooms, and patrol sleeping or playing spaces. To receive a copy of the VIRTUS® online article “Premises Safety... Always a High Priority,” email jvienna@la-archdiocese.org or call (213) 637-7227.

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.

Religious Education classes begin:

Sunday, September 24th

Classes in Spanish are from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Classes in English are from 10:30 - noon.

RCIA classes begin on Monday, September 25th O’Neill Center from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

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

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



**Pancakes, Eggs, Sausage
Donuts and Coffee**

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

CURRENT EVENTS

Saturday, September 23, 2017		
6:00 PM	Confirmation Parent Mtg	Hall
Sunday, September 24, 2017		
8:00AM -2:00 PM	Breakfast	Hall
Monday, September 25, 2017		
9:30am	Legion of Mary	Ministry Center
7:30PM-9:00PM	Youth Band Practice	Church
Tuesday, September 26, 2017		
9:00AM - 9:30AM	Our Lady of Wisdom Prayer Group	Church
11:30PM	Bingo	Hall
7:45PM	English Choir Practice	Church
Wednesday, September 27, 2017		
9:00 AM - 9:30 AM	Mother of Perpetual Help Novena	Church
7:00 PM	Bible Study	Ministry Center
Thursday, September 28, 2017		
6:30 PM - 9:00 PM	Youth Nights	Ministry Center
8:00 PM	Spanish Choir Practice	Church
Friday, September 29, 2017		
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Church
Saturday, September 30, 2017		
6:30 PM	Ultreya Group	Ministry Center
Sunday, October 1, 2017		
8:00AM -2:00 PM	Breakfast	Hall

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 23, 2017		
8:30 AM	Fr. Thai	Maria Gladiola Gadia† Edward Medina†
4:00PM	Fr. Thai	Confessions
5:00 PM	Fr. Thai	Patrick Yiu† Maxima Valdez†
Sunday, September 24, 2017		
7:30 AM	Fr. Peter	Peter Sinh Nguyen† John McKenzie†
9:00 AM	Fr. Thai	Ana Zenzola†
10:45 AM	Fr. Donovan	Rafael Garcia Jr.† Francisco Guerrero†
12:30 PM	Fr. Thai	Frank Cruz† Mary Louis Cruz: Healing
Monday, September 25, 2017		
8:30 AM	Fr. Thai	David Sanchez†
Tuesday, September 26, 2017		
8:30 AM	Fr. Donovan	Parishioners of STM
Wednesday, September 27, 2017		
8:30 AM	Fr. Thai	Salvador Baldoza†
Thursday, September 28, 2017		
8:30 AM	Fr. Donovan	Maxima Valdes†
Friday, September 29, 2017		
8:30 AM	Fr. Thai	Bea Padilla†
Saturday, September 30, 2017		
8:30 AM	Fr. Donovan	Missionary Sisters of St. Columban: Thanksgiving
4:00PM	Fr. Thai	Confessions
5:00 PM	Fr. Thai	Patrick Yiu†
Sunday, October 01, 2017		
7:30 AM	Fr. Donovan	Peter Sinh Nguyen†
9:00 AM	Fr. Thai	Dr. Julio Cagungun Jr.†
10:45 AM	Fr. Thai	Othmaro Caldoza†
12:30 PM	Fr. Lorenzo	Parishioners of STM

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 Lorenzini	Sisi Shum
Blanca & Procoro Castañeda	Bonnie Luna	Uldarica Sison
Jessica Cerda	Elvira Luna	Eddie Souza
Joan Cervantes	Rafael & Gerardo Luna	Dorian Suarez
Mary Louise Cruz	M Gilbert Madrid	U Leticia Ureno
D Roger Davila	Cely Magpantay	V Richard Valdes
Jesus M. Dulay	Anna Maraldo	Michael Velasco
E Maria Endara	Salvador Maldonado	Norma Villar
Malia Estrada	Edgardo Marin	Ricardo & Felicidad Villegas
F Ruth Fabela	Francis Meyer	Therese Huyen-Duong Thi Vu
Pat Fernandez	Jean Miceli	Theresa Mai Vu
Tony Filosa	James Montague	W Martha Willox
G Mariano G.	N Gloria Natividad	Janny Wong
Juan Garcia	Mario Nieto	Jennifer Wong
Ramona Garcia	Huy Nguyen	Z Christine Zampese
Daniela Garcia de la Rosa		

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!

Last Sunday evening I watched a few segments of the 2017 Emmy Awards. I like the moments when the names of the actors, actresses, and writers were called – “And the winner is...”. I bet it was an exciting and emotional moment for them as they walked up to the stage to receive the trophy. They deserved to be called “the winners” for their long hours, hard work and contributing well to the world of entertainment and society in general.

Similarly, today’s Gospel illustrates the image of calling people to come forward to receive their payment for their labors. However, they did not show the sentiment of excitement at all; instead, they demanded to get more payment than the groups that arrived later in the day. Hence, there is a motive for such: “*I should have received what I have inserted, my sacrifice, my long hours at the site, and therefore, better recognition than others.*” Such mindset is not aligned with God’s ways. Our nature can comprehend God’s way only because of His unlimited love. Thus, as children of God, we need to see each human person is a gift of God created in His own image. This fundamental mindset will help us change our perceptions of others.

We may think “the more we do, the more we will get paid” will lead us to salvation. We might believe, “I have been Catholic since birth - therefore, I have automatically earned my salvation.” We must know that none of us can earn eternal salvation on our own. Without God, we are nothing! Salvation is God’s unlimited love for those who respond to His invitation. We respond the invitation to accept God’s power, love, and mercy through Jesus Christ that no one else can give us.

In today’s Gospel, the groups that came late represent the people who did not know God in the earlier years of their lives. They could be the people that are living in countries or regions that Christianity is not allowed to worship! Jesus Christ and His image are prohibited from homes, public places, and in society. However, some folks have longed to respond to His invitation but couldn’t until the opportunity arose. They are the people that show up late! Yet they come with humble minds and hearts thinking they have abandoned Him for so long!

There is another group that does not want to show up although they are introduced and free to choose. Yet, they chose to form their own gods – gods of convivence, media, electronic devices, pleasures, and excuses to distance themselves from God and His Church. Such groups choose not to show up at all so they will miss God’s calling an invitation.

Interestingly, toward to the end of the Gospel, Our Lord reveals, “the last will be first...” because the last group of people comes with the mentality of *humility* and *regret*, “We have abandoned you, God for many years, but here I am!” They want to reconcile with God as they have grown in His love. This mentality should be in our prayers each day: Come to Our Heavenly Father with a sense of *humility* and *remorse* for our mistakes and sins in our earlier days and years, admitting that we are vulnerable creatures and subject to sin all the time! But with faith and trust in His love and mercy, we try our best to reconcile with Him. Through prayers, worshiping God in the Eucharist and Sacraments of the Church where we can discern His invitation to grow in our relationship with Him and others each day. Good and humble Christians would *never* say, “I earned my salvation; therefore, I don’t need to worship God and go to Church anymore!”

God bless!

Fr. Thai

¡Hola!

El último domingo por la noche vi algunos segmentos de los premios Emmy 2017. Me gustan los momentos en que se llamaban los nombres de los actores, actrices y escritores - "Y el ganador es ...". Apuesto a que fue un momento emocionante y emocionante para ellos mientras caminaban hasta el escenario para recibir el trofeo. Merecían ser llamados "los ganadores" por sus largas horas, trabajo duro y contribuyendo bien al mundo del entretenimiento ya la sociedad en general.

Del mismo modo, el Evangelio de hoy ilustra la imagen de llamar a la gente a presentarse para recibir su pago por sus trabajos. Sin embargo, no mostraron el sentimiento de excitación en absoluto; en cambio, exigieron más pagos que los grupos que llegaron más tarde en el día. Por lo tanto, hay un motivo para tales: "Yo debería haber recibido lo que he insertado, mi sacrificio, mis largas horas en el lugar, y por lo tanto, un mejor reconocimiento que otros". Tal mentalidad no está alineada con los caminos de Dios. Nuestra naturaleza puede comprender el camino de Dios sólo por Su amor ilimitado. Por lo tanto, como hijos de Dios, necesitamos ver que cada persona humana es un don de Dios creado a Su propia imagen. Esta mentalidad fundamental nos ayudará a cambiar nuestra percepción de los demás.

Podemos pensar que "cuanto más hacemos, más se nos pagará" nos llevará a la salvación. Podemos creer, "Yo he sido católico desde el nacimiento, por lo tanto, automáticamente he ganado mi salvación". Debemos saber que ninguno de nosotros puede ganar la salvación eterna por nuestra cuenta. ¡Sin Dios, no somos nada! La salvación es el amor ilimitado de Dios para aquellos que responden a Su invitación. Respondemos la invitación a aceptar el poder, el amor y la misericordia de Dios a través de Jesucristo que nadie más puede darnos.

En el Evangelio de hoy, los grupos que llegaron tarde representan a la gente que no conocía a Dios en los primeros años de sus vidas. ¡Podrían ser las personas que viven en países o regiones que el cristianismo no está autorizado a adorar! Jesucristo y su imagen están prohibidos en los hogares, lugares públicos y en la sociedad. Sin embargo, algunas personas han anhelado responder a su invitación, pero no pudo hasta que surgió la oportunidad. ¡Son las personas que llegan tarde! Sin embargo, vienen con humildes mentes y corazones pensando que lo han abandonado por tanto tiempo!

Hay otro grupo que no quiere presentarse, aunque son introducidos y libres de elegir. Sin embargo, eligieron formar sus propios dioses, dioses de convivencia, medios, dispositivos electrónicos, placeres y excusas para distanciarse de Dios y de su Iglesia. Tales grupos optan por no aparecer en absoluto, así que se perderán el llamado de Dios una invitación.

Curiosamente, hacia el final del Evangelio, Nuestro Señor revela, "los últimos serán los primeros ..." porque el último grupo de personas viene con la mentalidad de humildad y arrepentimiento, "Te hemos abandonado, Dios por muchos años, pero aquí ¡Yo soy!". Quieren reconciliarse con Dios tal como han crecido en Su amor. Esta mentalidad debe estar en nuestras oraciones cada día: ¡Vengan a Nuestro Padre Celestial con un sentido de humildad y remordimiento por nuestros errores y pecados en nuestros primeros días y años, admitiendo que somos criaturas vulnerables y sujetos a pecado todo el tiempo! Pero con fe y confianza en Su amor y misericordia, hacemos todo lo posible para reconciliarnos con Él. A través de las oraciones, adorando a Dios en la Eucaristía y los Sacramentos de la Iglesia, donde podemos discernir Su invitación a crecer en nuestra relación con Él y los demás cada día. Los cristianos buenos y humildes nunca dirían: "Gané mi salvación; por lo tanto, no necesito adorar a Dios e ir a la Iglesia más".

¡Dios bendiga!

P. Thai