

St. Thomas More Church

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

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday, October 1st 2017



EUCHARISTIC 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) frthaile@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 — When the wicked turn away from their wickedness they have committed and do what is right, they shall surely live (Ezekiel 18:25-28).

Psalm — Remember your mercies, O Lord (Psalm 25).

Second Reading — Consider others as better than yourselves; look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others (Philippians 2:1-11 [1-5]).

Gospel — Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you (Matthew 21:28-32).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Zec 8:1-8; Ps 102:16-21, 29, 22-23; Mt 18:1-5, 10
Tuesday: Zec 8:20-23; Ps 87:1b-7; Lk 9:51-56
Wednesday: Neh 2:1-8; Ps 137:1-6; Lk 9:57-62
Thursday: Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Ps 19:8-11; Lk 10:1-12
Friday: Bar 1:15-22; Ps 79:1b-5, 8-9; Lk 10:13-16
Saturday: Bar 4:5-12, 27-29; Ps 69:33-37; Lk 10:17-24
Sunday: Is 5:1-7; Ps 80:9, 12-16, 19-20; Phil 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — Apártate del pecado para que vivas (Ezequiel 18:25-28).

Salmo — Recuerda tus bondades, oh Señor (Salmo 25 [24]).

Segunda lectura — Guarda en ti la misma actitud que está también en Cristo Jesús (Filipenses 2:1-11 [1-5]).

Evangelio — El que obedece al Señor aunque sea con resistencia, es el que hace la voluntad del Padre (Mateo 21:28-32).

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: Zac 8:1-8; Sal 102 (101):16-21, 29, 22-23; Mt 18:1-5, 10
Martes: Zac 8:20-23; Sal 87 (86):1b-7; Lc 9:51-56
Miércoles: Neh 2:1-8; Sal 137 (136):1-6; Lc 9:57-62
Jueves: Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Sal 19 (18):8-11; Lc 10:1-12
Viernes: Bar 1:15-22; Sal 79 (78):1b-5, 8-9; Lc 10:13-16
Sábado: Bar 4:5-12, 27-29; Sal 69 (68):33-37; Lc 10:17-24
Domingo: Is 5:1-7; Sal 80 (79):9, 12-16, 19-20; Fil 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43

Collections for 9/24/17

5:00 PM	\$942.00	
7:30 AM	\$896.00	
9:00 AM	\$1,167.00	
10:45 AM	\$469.00	THANK YOU!
12:30 PM	\$1,033.00	
By mail/online	\$208.00	GRACIAS!
Bldg Fund	\$571.00	
Special Projects	\$16.00	
Altar Society	\$15.00	
Total	\$5,317.00	

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

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.

Sunday Breakfast



Donuts and Coffee

**Sponsored by the Proud Parents of
STM First Grade Students**

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

DATE: OCTOBER 13 & 14, 2017

**FATIMA 100
YEARS
ANNIVERSARY**

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO ON OCT. 13, 1917
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY LAST APPEARED TO THE
THREE SMALL SHEPHERD CHILDREN IN FATIMA,
PORTUGAL.

OUR PARISH COMMUNITY WILL CELEBRATE THE
CENTENNIAL WITH A BRIEF HISTORY OF FATIMA AND
THEN PRAY THE ROSARY TOGETHER AS WE
REMEMBER OUR LADY OF FATIMA.

First Session

**(STM Students)
Church**

**Friday Oct. 13, 17
1:15 pm**

***A Brief History of
Fatima (Fr. Thai)***

2:15 – 2:45 pm

Rosary

Second Session

**Saturday Oct. 14
Mass at 5 pm**

**Talk 6:15 pm
*A Brief History of***

***Fatima*
(Fr. Thai)**

7:15 – 8:00 pm

Rosary

CURRENT EVENTS

Saturday, September 30, 2017		
6:30PM Ultreya Group	Ministry Center	
Sunday, October 1, 2017		
8AM - 2PM Breakfast	Hall	
Monday, October 2, 2017		
9:30AM Legion of Mary	Ministry Center	
7:00PM RCIA Class	Ministry Center	
7:30PM-9PM Youth Band Practice	Church	
Tuesday, October 3, 2017		
9AM - 9:30AM Our Lady of Wisdom Prayer Group	Church	
7:00PM Grupo de Oracion	Ministry Center	
7:45PM English Choir Practice	Church	
Wednesday, October 4, 2017		
9AM - 9:30AM Mother of Perpetual Help Novena	Church	
7:00PM Bible Study	Ministry Center	
Thursday, October 5, 2017		
6:30PM - 9PM Youth Nights	Ministry Center	
8:00PM Spanish Choir Practice	Church	
Friday, October 6, 2017		
9AM - 1PM Eucharistic Adoration	Church	
7:00PM Devine Mercy	Ministry Center	
Saturday, October 7, 2017		
6:00PM Confirmation Class	Ministry Center	
Sunday, October 8, 2017		
8AM -2PM Breakfast	Hall	
9AM-12PM Religious Education Class	School	

MASS SCHEDULE

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† Francisco Mendoza†	
Sunday, October 01, 2017		
7:30 AM Fr. Donovan	Peter Sinh Nguyen†	
9:00 AM Fr. Thai	Dr. Julio Cagungan Jr.†	
10:45 AM Fr. Thai	Othmaro Caldoza†	
12:30 PM Fr. Andrew	Julio Diaz: Healing	
Monday, October 02, 2017		
8:30 AM Fr. Thai	Humberto Magallanes: Birthday Julio Diaz: Healing	
Tuesday, October 03, 2017		
8:30 AM Fr. Andrew	Dolores Gonzales†	
Wednesday, October 04, 2017		
8:30 AM Fr. Thai	Fr. Tom Conn, S.J.†	
Thursday, October 05, 2017		
8:30 AM Fr. Donovan	Parishioners of STM	
Friday, October 06, 2017		
8:30 AM Fr. Thai	Fr. Thai Le and Family	
Saturday, October 07, 2017		
8:30 AM Fr. Donovan	Parishioners of STM	
4:00 PM Fr. Thai	Confessions	
5:00 PM Fr. Thai	Patrick Yiu† Epifania Pedroza†	
Sunday, October 08, 2017		
7:30 AM Fr. Thai	Peter Sinh Nguyen† John McKenzie†	
9:00 AM Fr. Lorenzo	James Reitzell†	
10:45 AM Fr. Lorenzo	Rafael Garcia Sr.†	
12:30 PM Fr. Thai	Juan Carlos Durazo †	

Please Pray for the Sick

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 and Rose Marie Brown	K Mary Keffer	Domenic Rizzi
Ida Bustos	Kimbra Fossen	Michael Angelo Rodriguez
C Jessica Cabrera	Theresa Kryszek	Mike Romano
Rita Campanella	L Bill Lamb	Ana Romo
Gloria Cancio	Bertha La Barreda	Virginia Rosales
S. Cano	Anfrea Leija	Alissa Roybal
Burt Carranza	William Lievens	S Mason Saldaña
Evelin Carranza	James Lindgren	Francisco Sanchez
Celia Carmona	Yee See Lipsun	Virginia Sanchez
Erik M. Casillas	Eleanor Lopez	Dylan Silva
Blanca and Procoro Castañeda	Brother Martin Lorenzini	Sisi Shum
Jessica Cerda	Bonnie Luna	Uldarica Sison
Joan Cervantes	Elvira Luna	Eddie Souza
Mary Louise Cruz	Rafael and Gerardo Luna	Dorian Suarez
D Roger Davila	M Gilbert Madrid	U Leticia Ureno
Julio Diaz	Cely Magpantay	V Richard Valdes
Jesus M. Dulay	Anna Maraldo	Michael Velasco
E 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

Pray for the Dead

Josephine Barrera	Carey Nakayama
Maria Endara	Ernesto Perez
Isaiah Gabriel Gutierrez	Clare Ryan
Francisco Ramon Montiel	Cornelio Sanga Sr.



Hello!

Some years ago, I knew a woman whose husband was stationed in Iraq at that time. Whenever she spoke with her husband on the phone, she would always write down those important words and phrases so that she could read to her children later. She told me after each time she re-read the words out to her children, they were always in tears. I did not ask her about the contents of the writings but I believed they cried because his words touched their hearts; they were missing him!

Most of us could hear well when others speak to us. However, do we truly listen to what are they telling and are able to filter the information effectively? The ability to listen and filter information is a crucial virtue for many people these days for numbers of reasons:

- We are bombarded by many voices and information.
- How can we tell if the information is valid or authentic?
- Are those voices trustworthy or not?

Thus, we might gradually build a habit of pretending to listen. However, the depth and substance of the message might be missed.

The parable in today's Gospel categorized into two groups. The first group contained the tax collectors and prostitutes, who are represented by the first son who responded "no" to his father but later changed his mind. These people had wasted their former lives with corruption, greed for money, and disobedience to God. However, when they heard Jesus' words, they responded by abandoning their former ways to follow Him.

The second group of people contained the chief priests and elders of the people, represented by the second son, who originally said "yes" to his father but later changed his mind from obedience to disobedience. These people heard Jesus' preaching and the Scriptures, but their hearts were closed to following Him. Instead, they followed their own ways and gradually distanced themselves from His teachings and words.

Who were the tax collectors and prostitutes? How did they end up so well? They had an easy job -- earning almost without working. They did not need to invest their money, study, or calculate risk-factors for businesses. They became rich by collecting other peoples' money and sinful behaviors. In a sense, they were living "rock bottom" empty and worthless lives. Yet, when they listened to Jesus' teachings, their lives began to turn around. His words touched their lives in ways they could not resist. They have found hope and new direction through the power of His words.

Everyone has a story of conversion. Some people may have lived in the depths of misery due to difficult lives; the loss of a loved one, abandoned by family members, dependent on substances, or immoral lifestyles. These distractions can lead people to distance from God and the Church. They might think they are happy with their lives while living in this stage. These folks might not listen to anyone telling them how to make positive changes. Only when Jesus' words touch their hearts and minds do they make a significant turnaround! I am so pleased to listen to such stories of conversion, people truly return home to the Catholic faith. They discover or rediscover the power of God's love and forgiveness. They have found the answers in God and His Church.

We have met Jesus in the Eucharist for many years. He has also touched us for many years in the Scriptures, the Sacraments of the Church, and through prayer in our daily lives. Every time we listen to God's Word, there must be a new story of Jesus that brings us a deeper relationship with Him. We will not allow ourselves to be likened the chief priests and the elders of people who listened to Jesus' words and were unable to live in their lives; so they were stuck!

God bless!

Fr. Thai

¡Hola!

Hace algunos años, conocí a una mujer que marido estaba estacionado en Irak en ese momento. Siempre que hablaba con su esposo por teléfono, ella siempre escribía esas palabras y frases importantes para poder leer a sus hijos más tarde. Ella me dijo que cada vez que releía las palabras a sus hijos, siempre estaban llorando. No le pregunté sobre el contenido de los escritos, pero creí que lloraban porque sus palabras tocaban sus corazones; le estaban perdiendo!

La mayoría de nosotros podía oír bien cuando otros nos hablan. Sin embargo, ¿realmente escuchar lo que están diciendo y son capaces de filtrar la información de manera efectiva? La capacidad de escuchar y filtrar información es una virtud crucial para muchas personas en estos días por un número de razones:

- Somos bombardeados por muchas voces e información.
- ¿Cómo podemos saber si la información es válida o auténtica?
- ¿Son esas voces dignas de confianza o no?

Así, poco a poco podríamos construir el hábito de fingir escuchar. Sin embargo, la profundidad y la sustancia del mensaje puede ser perdida.

La parábola del Evangelio de hoy se clasifica en dos grupos. El primer grupo contenía a los recaudadores de impuestos ya las prostitutas, que son representados por el primer hijo que respondió "no" a su padre pero más tarde cambió de opinión. Estas personas habían desperdiciado sus vidas anteriores con corrupción, codicia por dinero y desobediencia a Dios. Sin embargo, cuando escucharon las palabras de Jesús, ellos respondieron abandonando sus antiguos caminos para seguirlo.

El segundo grupo de personas contenía a los principales sacerdotes y ancianos del pueblo, representados por el segundo hijo, que originalmente dijo "sí" a su padre, pero más tarde cambió su mente de la obediencia a la desobediencia. Estas personas escucharon la predicación de Jesús y las Escrituras, pero sus corazones estaban cerrados para seguirlo. En cambio, ellos siguieron sus propios caminos y gradualmente se distanciaron de Sus enseñanzas y palabras.

¿Quiénes eran los recaudadores de impuestos y las prostitutas? ¿Cómo terminaron tan bien? Tenían un trabajo fácil - ganando casi sin trabajar. No necesitaban invertir su dinero, estudiar o calcular factores de riesgo para las empresas. Se hicieron ricos recolectando dinero de otras personas y conductas pecaminosas. En cierto sentido, vivían vidas "vacías" y sin valor. Sin embargo, cuando escucharon las enseñanzas de Jesús, sus vidas comenzaron a cambiar. Sus palabras tocaron sus vidas de una manera que no pudieron resistir. Ellos han encontrado esperanza y nueva dirección a través del poder de Sus palabras.

Todo el mundo tiene una historia de conversión. Algunas personas pueden haber vivido en las profundidades de la miseria debido a vidas difíciles; la pérdida de un ser querido, abandonado por miembros de la familia, dependiente de sustancias o estilos de vida inmorales. Estas distracciones pueden conducir a la gente a la distancia de Dios y la Iglesia. Podrían pensar que están contentos con sus vidas mientras viven en esta etapa. Estas personas no pueden escuchar a nadie diciéndoles cómo hacer cambios positivos. ¡Solamente cuando las palabras de Jesús tocan sus corazones y mentes hacen un cambio significativo! Estoy muy contento de escuchar esas historias de conversión, la gente verdaderamente regresa a casa a la fe católica. Descubren o redescubren el poder del amor y perdón de Dios. Han encontrado las respuestas en Dios y en Su Iglesia.

Hemos conocido a Jesús en la Eucaristía durante muchos años. También nos ha tocado durante muchos años en las Escrituras, en los Sacramentos de la Iglesia y en la oración en nuestra vida cotidiana. Cada vez que escuchamos la Palabra de Dios, debe haber una nueva historia de Jesús que nos traiga una relación más profunda con Él. No nos permitiremos comparar los principales sacerdotes y los ancianos de las personas que escuchaban las palabras de Jesús y no podían vivir en sus vidas; así que estaban atrapados!

¡Dios bendiga!

P. Thai