

# St. Thomas More Church

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



## First Sunday of Advent Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2017

### 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

<b>Monday-Thursday</b>	9:00AM - 7:30PM	<i>Closed 1:00 - 2:00PM</i>
<b>Friday</b>	9:00AM - 7:00PM	<i>Closed 1:00 - 2:00PM</i>
<b>Saturday</b>	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** — We are the clay and you, O LORD, are the potter: we are the work of your hands (Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7).

**Psalm** — Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved (Psalm 80).

**Second Reading** — God is faithful; by God you were called to fellowship with the Son (1 Corinthians 1:3-9).

**Gospel** — Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. (Mark 13:33-37).

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday:	Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday:	Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37
Thursday:	Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday:	Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Saturday:	Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8
Sunday:	Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-14; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

### LECTURAS DE HOY

**Primera lectura** — Isaías ruega por el retorno del Señor (Isaías 63:16-17, 19; 64:2-7).

**Salmo** — Señor, Dios nuestro, restáuranos que brille tu rostro y nos salve (Salmo 80 [79]).

**Segunda lectura** — Pablo está agradecido por las bendiciones que los corintios han recibido debido a su fe en Jesús (1 Corintios 1:3-9).

**Evangelio** — Jesús dice a los discípulos que estén siempre alertas a la llegada del tiempo designado (Marcos 13:33-37).

### LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes:	Is 2:1-5; Sal 122 (121):1-9; Mt 8:5-11
Martes:	Is 11:1-10; Sal 72 (71):1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lc 10:21-24
Miércoles:	Is 25:6-10a; Sal 23 (22):1-6; Mt 15:29-37
Jueves:	Is 26:1-6; Sal 118 (117):1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Viernes:	Gn 3:9-15, 20; Sal 98 (97):1-4; Ef 1:3-6, 11-12; Lc 1:26-38
Sábado:	Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Sal 147 (146):1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8
Domingo:	Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Sal 85 (84):9-14; 2 Pe 3:8-14; Mc 1:1-8

### Collections for 11/26/17

5:00 PM	\$1,064.00
7:30 AM	\$934.00
9:00 AM	\$1,073.00
10:45 AM	\$501.00
12:30 PM	\$871.00
By mail/online	\$183.00
Bldg Fund	\$356.00
Special Projects	\$21.00
Thanksgiving	\$1,676.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,679.00</b>

**THANK YOU!**

**GRACIAS!**

## 2017 STM School

### Christmas Toy Drive

Now Through Friday,  
December 15, 2017

Please bring an Unwrapped New Toy for a girl or a boy, ages Newborn - 14 years that you would like to donate to your classroom. All toys will be donated to the Hillside Foundation.

Christmas Toy Drive.



Whoever has a heart full of love always has something to give. - Pope John XXIII

### Tree of Giving December 2 - December 17

'Tis the Season! Please stop by and select an organization's card from the Tree of Giving.

Wrap your gift, attach the tag, and put it under the tree. If your gift is cash or check, place it in a sealed envelope with the name of the organization written on the outside and turn it in to the rectory.

We must receive all gifts by December 17 to ensure delivery before Christmas. If you have any questions, please call the STM Secretary at

(626) 284-8333 x141.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

## Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass and Celebration

Tuesday, December 12, 2017  
St. Thomas More Church  
7:00 P.M.

Mass for Our Lady of Guadalupe followed by a Celebration Reception in the Parish Hall. Matachines will dance to our Blessed Mother.

For Donations and Volunteering please contact Betty Saldana (213)705-9003

### Help Care for Elders



"Thanks to support from the Retirement Fund for Religious, we are now in a much better position to care for our elders," writes a religious sister.

Your donation helps her religious community and hundreds of others provide for aging members and plan for long-term needs.

Please give to next week's Retirement Fund for Religious collection.

### Sunday Breakfast

Please join us  
8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the hall for



**Pork Ribs in Green Sauce, Eggs and Chorizo, Huevos Rancheros, Menudo, Coffee and Donuts**

Sponsored by  
The Youth Ministry

**CURRENT EVENTS**

<b>Saturday, December 02, 2017</b>		
5:00 PM Confirmation Class	Church	
6:00 PM Spaghetti with Santa	Hall	
<b>Sunday, December 03, 2017</b>		
8AM -2PM Breakfast	Hall	
9AM-12PM Religious Education Classes	School	
2PM -3:30 PM English Choir Practice	Church	
<b>Monday, December 04, 2017</b>		
9:30am Legion of Mary	Ministry Center	
7:00 PM RCIA Class	Ministry Center	
7:30PM-9PM Youth Band Practice	Church	
<b>Tuesday, December 05, 2017</b>		
9AM - 9:30AM Our Lady of Wisdom Prayer Group	Church	
7:00 PM Grupo de Oracion	Ministry Center	
7:45 PM English Choir Practice	Church	
<b>Wednesday, December 06, 2017</b>		
9AM - 9:30 AM Mother of Perpetual Help Novena	Church	
7:00 PM Bible Study	Ministry Center	
<b>Thursday, December 07, 2017</b>		
6:30 PM Youth Nights	Ministry Center	
6:30 PM Penance Service	Church	
8 PM Spanish Choir Practice	Church	
<b>Friday, December 08, 2017</b>		
9AM - 1PM Eucharistic Adoration	Church	
<b>Saturday, December 09, 2017</b>		
6PM No Confirmation Class (Retreat)	Ministry Center	
<b>Sunday, December 10, 2017</b>		
8AM -2PM Breakfast	Hall	
9AM-12PM Religious Education Class	School	

**MASS SCHEDULE**

<b>Saturday, December 02, 2017</b>		
8:30 AM	Fr. Andrew	Parishioners of STM
4:00PM	Fr. Thai	Confessions
5:00 PM	Fr. Thai	Patrick Yiu† Choni Coyle: Birthday
<b>Sunday, December 03, 2017</b>		
7:30 AM	Fr. Andrew	Christine Magdaleno† Anna Ly Tran†
9:00 AM	Fr. Thai	Joel, Antonio & Valentina Tiu†
10:45 AM	Fr. Thai	Socorro & Alfredo Rios†
12:30 PM	Fr. Andrew	Leonor Orozco† Anthony Mimmerly†
<b>Monday, December 04, 2017</b>		
8:30 AM	Fr. Thai	Leticia Tubig†
<b>Tuesday, December 05, 2017</b>		
8:30 AM	Fr. Andrew	Rita Campanella
<b>Wednesday, December 06, 2017</b>		
8:30 AM	Fr. Donovan	Roberto Soriano†
<b>Thursday, December 07, 2017</b>		
8:30 AM	Fr. Donovan	Parishioners of STM
6:30 PM		Penance Service
<b>Friday, December 08, 2017</b>		
8:30 AM	Fr. Thai	Carlos I. Estrada†
7:00 PM	Fr. Andrew	
<b>Saturday, December 09, 2017</b>		
8:30 AM	Fr. Andrew	Carmen G. Delgado†
5:00 PM	Fr. Thai	Patrick Yiu† Mercedes Bidad†
<b>Sunday, December 10, 2017</b>		
7:30 AM	Fr. Donovan	Parishioners of STM
9:00 AM	Fr. Thai	Anita Alderete† Bella Domingo: Thanksgiving
10:45 AM	Fr. Thai	Rafael Garcia Sr.† Javier Molina†
12:30 PM	Fr. Andrew	Parishioners of STM

*Please Pray for the Sick*

Fr. Jeremiah O'Neill		
<b>A</b> Mariano Aoanan	<b>G</b> Alyce Gold	<b>P</b> Laura Pagano
George Astacio	Edelle Gonzales	Tony Pagliotti
Rosa Astacio	Gavin Gutierrez	Sharon Palmiter
Brianna Ayestas	Ricardo Gutierrez	Fernando Parra
<b>B</b> Roy Barrientos	Carolina Guzman	Arpie Pezeshkian
Douglas Barquero	<b>H</b> Memo Herrera	<b>R</b> Dolores Ramirez
Patricia Bernal	Sally Herrera	Rosalia Rodriguez
Andy Bouffard	<b>I</b> Selvia Inado	Maria Rosa Ramirez
		Ramon Ramos
Louie Bouffard	<b>J</b> Darwin Jenkins	Julieta Reta
Steven Brown	Dennis James Johnson	
Tod & Rose Marie Brown	Gary Jones	Jean Reyes Williams
Ida Bustos	<b>K</b> David Kametani	Maria T. Riley
<b>C</b> Jessica Cabrera	Mary Keffer	Domenic Rizzi
Rita Campanella	Kimbra Fossen	Michael Angelo Rodriguez
		Mike Romano
Gloria Cancio	Theresa Kryszek	Ana Romo
S. Cano	<b>L</b> Bill Lamb	Virginia Rosales
Burt Carranza	Bertha La Barreda	Alissa Roybal
Evelin Carranza	Anfrea Leija	Mason Saldaña
Celia Carmona	William Lievens	Francisco Sanchez
Erik M. Casillas	James Lindgren	Virginia Sanchez
Blanca & Procoro Castañeda	Yee See Lipsun	
Jessica Cerda	Eleanor Lopez	Dylan Silva
Joan Cervantes	Brother Martin Lorenzini	Sisi Shum
Mary Louise Cruz	Bonnie Luna	Uldarica Sison
<b>D</b> Roger Davila	Elvira Luna	Eddie Souza
Julio Diaz	Rafael & Gerardo Luna	Dorian Suarez
Luz Santos	<b>M</b> Gilbert Madrid	<b>U</b> Leticia Ureno
Dicioco		
Jesus M. Dulay	Cely Magpantay	<b>V</b> Richard Valdes
<b>E</b> Malia Estrada	Anna Maraldo	Michael Velasco
<b>F</b> Ruth Fabela	Salvador Maldonado	Norma Villar
Pat Fernandez	Edgardo Marin	Ricardo & Felicidad Villegas
		Therese Huyen-Duong Thi Vu
Tony Filosa	Francis Meyer	Theresa Mai Vu
Louis Finochio	Jean Miceli	<b>W</b> Martha Willox
<b>G</b> Mariano G.	Tony Micelli	Janny Wong
Juan Garcia	James Montague	Jennifer Wong
Ramona Garcia	<b>N</b> Gloria Natividad	<b>Z</b> Christine Zampese
Daniela Garcia de la Rosa	Mario Nieto	
	Victor Ng	
	Huy Nguyen	

*Pray for the Dead*

Anita Alderate	Jose Anibal Iainez
Mercedes Bidad	Christine Magdaleno
Frank Bush	Mary Anne Odegard
Alfonso Garcia	Dominico Tran Suu



Hello!

This time of the year many people travel to visit family and friends. I guess that you always prepare for your trip. A joyful break time depends on how well you prepare for it! If your plane leaves the airport at nine o'clock, you need to be there at least a couple of hours before the departure time. If you just take it easy and arrive at the airport whenever you like assuming the flight will wait for you, it will not happen that way. Or if you own a restaurant that opens at nine o'clock, you probably need to be there at least an hour earlier to prepare everything to serve the customers. You know well the negative outcomes for being unprepared.

As the Church begins with First Sunday of Advent, in the Gospel, Jesus warns his listeners to "Be watchful! Be alert!" Using the image of the master of the house and the gatekeeper Jesus portrays the wisdom of a faithful gatekeeper being always vigilant. Good and faithful servants during the time of Jesus would be right there to open the gate for the master when he chooses to return.

In today's gospel, why does Our Lord Jesus Christ underscore the importance of readiness at all times? He reminds us that we must acknowledge our limitations; we can't be like God who knows everything. So, be humble, be alert, and have faith in God's guidance that enables us to move forward with great hope and peace.

Advent Season is when the Church invites us to ponder two aspects of our faith: to celebrate the birth of our Savior and to prepare for His second coming. This period of four weeks of Advent not only reminds us it is time for things like shopping, decorating, or planning vacations; it is deeper than that. As followers of Christ, we ponder upon God's gift of life for us through the ministry of His Incarnation.

Over the years I have learned that success in life and businesses does not come by chance but through preparation. Successful people plan and prepare their hours, days, months, meetings, speeches, responsibilities, and so on. They prioritize what is most important and people that they need to meet. Moreover, they follow their plans. They also have a list of things that are not as important and can do later when the important things are finished. They build these practices as habits and carry them on as long as they live.

Our spiritual life and discipline should follow this same model, which will lead us to be successful people of faith demonstrating a commitment to our Savior. Thus, to place God in all aspects of life is our way of preparation and readiness.

No one knows for sure what the future brings. Therefore, the key is to prepare. The faithful gatekeepers are those who never allow themselves to fall into the trap of the past that assume things will be happening just like yesterday. Each new day brings new challenges, and we will need to follow Jesus's teachings. Placing our hope and trust in Jesus will reveal everything that we need to know about our future and God. It is time to decorate our inner selves with His grace and love for us in everyday life. His Word and wisdom will shine in our hearts and minds on every path of life's journey. It is time to pray and reflect on God's gift. There is no Christmas without the Season of Advent, and there is no Advent without preparation.

God bless!

Fr. Thai

¡Hola!

En esta época del año, muchas personas viajan para visitar a familiares y amigos. Supongo que siempre te preparas para tu viaje. ¡Un tiempo de descanso alegre depende de lo bien que te prepares para ello! Si su avión sale del aeropuerto a las nueve en punto, debe estar allí al menos un par de horas antes de la hora de salida. Si te lo tomas con calma y llegas al aeropuerto cuando quieras suponiendo que el vuelo te esperará, no sucederá de esa manera. O si posee un restaurante que abre a las nueve en punto, probablemente necesite estar allí al menos una hora antes para preparar todo para servir a los clientes. Usted conoce bien los resultados negativos por no estar preparado.

Cuando la Iglesia comienza con el Domingo de Adviento de Fris, en el Evangelio, Jesús advierte a sus oyentes que "¡estén atentos! ¡Estate alerta!" Usando la imagen del dueño de la casa y el portero Jesús describe la sabiduría de un guardián fiel que siempre está atento. Los buenos y fieles siervos durante el tiempo de Jesús estarían allí para abrir la puerta del maestro cuando él elija regresar.

En el evangelio de hoy, ¿por qué Nuestro Señor Jesucristo recalca la importancia de la disponibilidad en todo momento? Él nos recuerda que debemos reconocer nuestras limitaciones; no podemos ser como Dios quien sabe todo. Entonces, sean humildes, estén alertas y tengan fe en la guía de Dios que nos permite avanzar con gran esperanza y paz.

La temporada de Adviento es cuando la Iglesia nos invita a reflexionar sobre dos aspectos de nuestra fe: celebrar el nacimiento de nuestro Salvador y prepararnos para su segunda venida. Este período de cuatro semanas de Adviento no solo nos recuerda que es hora de comprar, decorar o planificar vacaciones; es más profundo que eso. Como seguidores de Cristo, reflexionamos sobre el don de la vida de Dios para nosotros a través del ministerio de Su Encarnación.

Con el paso de los años, he aprendido que el éxito en la vida y en las empresas no se da por casualidad sino a través de la preparación. Las personas exitosas planifican y preparan sus horas, días, meses, reuniones, discursos, responsabilidades, etc. Priorizan lo que es más importante y las personas que necesitan conocer. Además, siguen sus planes. También tienen una lista de cosas que no son tan importantes y que pueden hacer más adelante cuando las cosas importantes hayan terminado. Construyen estas prácticas como hábitos y los llevan a cabo mientras vivan.

Nuestra vida espiritual y nuestra disciplina deben seguir este mismo modelo, que nos llevará a ser personas de fe exitosas que demuestren un compromiso con nuestro Salvador. Por lo tanto, ubicar a Dios en todos los aspectos de la vida es nuestra forma de preparación y preparación.

Nadie sabe con seguridad qué traerá el futuro. Por lo tanto, la clave es prepararse. Los porteros fieles son aquellos que nunca se dejan caer en la trampa del pasado que asumen que las cosas se irán haciendo igual que ayer. Cada nuevo día trae nuevos desafíos, y necesitaremos seguir las enseñanzas de Jesús. Al poner nuestra esperanza y confianza en Jesús, revelaremos todo lo que necesitamos saber sobre nuestro futuro y Dios. Es hora de decorar nuestro yo interior con su gracia y amor por nosotros en la vida cotidiana. Su Palabra y sabiduría brillarán en nuestros corazones y mentes en cada camino del viaje de la vida. Es hora de orar y reflexionar sobre el regalo de Dios. No hay Navidad sin la Estación de Adviento, y no hay Adviento sin preparación.

¡Dios bendiga!

P. Thai