

St. Thomas More Church

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

Fourth Sunday of Advent Sunday, December 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 *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) frthaile@yahoo.com

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Jeremiah O'Neill

Deacon Couple: Rogelio and Emilia Garcia
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Safeguard the Children Contact: Mae Ho
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Liturgy & Music Coordinator: Sr. Andrea Johnson
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Accounting Manager: Lucy Lai
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Youth Ministry & Confirmation Coordinator: Francisco Ramos
stm1lifeteenymc@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 fix a place for my people. I will plant them so that they may dwell in their place without further disturbance (2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16).

Psalm — For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 89).

Second Reading — To the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, be glory forever and ever (Romans 16:25-27).

Gospel — Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word (Luke 1:26-38).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27-29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]

During the Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

Tuesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Thursday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18

Friday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 105:1-6, 8-9; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or Hb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — El Señor promete a David que su casa permanecerá para siempre (2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16).

Salmo — Cantaré eternamente las misericordias del Señor (Salmo 89 [88]).

Segunda lectura — Pablo ora para que Dios sea glorificado mediante Jesucristo (Romanos 16:25-27).

Evangelio — El ángel Gabriel anuncia a María que ella concebirá al hijo de Dios (Lucas 1:26-38).

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: Vigilia: Is 62:1-5; Sal 89 (88):4-5, 16-17, 27-29; Hch 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]

Noche: Is 9:1-6; Sal 96 (95):1-3, 11-13; Tit 2:11-14; Lc 2:1-14

Aurora: Is 62:11-12; Sal 97 (96):1, 6, 11-12; Tit 3:4-7; Lc 2:15-20

Día: Is 52:7-10; Sal 98 (97):1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

Martes: Hch 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Sal 31 (30):3cd-9; Mt 10:17-22

Miércoles: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Sal 97 (96):1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Jueves: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Sal 124 (123):2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18

Viernes: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Sal 96 (95):1-3, 5b-6; Lc 2:22-35

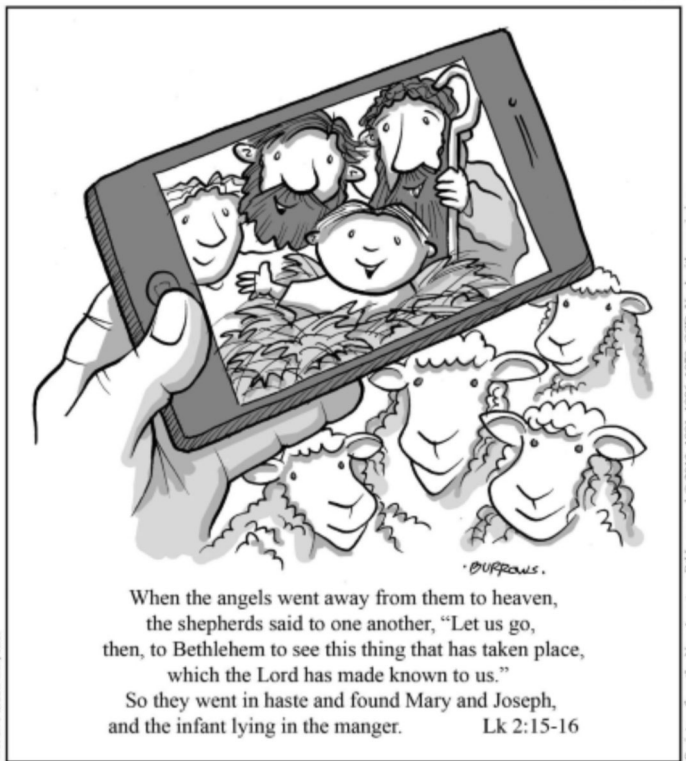
Sábado: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Sal 96 (95):7-10; Lc 2:36-40

Domingo: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Sal 89 (88):2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lc 1:26-38



The Little Ones

Jim Burrows



When the angels went away from them to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go, then, to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. Lk 2:15-16

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



Safeguard the Children



Educational video resources

The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, through its initiative Kid Smartz, provides age-appropriate videos for children on how to put safety rules into action. This video series teaches children to always "check first" with a parent, guardian, or other trusted adult before going anywhere, helping anyone, accepting anything, or getting into a car.

Visit <http://www.kidsmartz.org/Videos> to view the video.

Sunday Breakfast

No Breakfast this Sunday

Please Join Us Next Year
After the Holidays

Collections for 12/18/17

5:00 PM	\$842.00
7:30 AM	\$936.00
9:00 AM	\$1,588.00
10:45 AM	\$654.00
12:30 PM	\$930.00
By mail/online	\$337.00
Bldg Fund	\$3,530.00
Special Projects	\$151.00
Our Lady of Guadalupe mass	\$555.00
Total	\$9,523.00
2nd Collection: Faith Formation	\$621.00

THANK YOU!
GRACIAS!

CURRENT EVENTS

Saturday, December 23, 2017		
7:00PM	Posadas Culmination	Church
6:00PM	No Confirmation Class	Church
Sunday, December 24, 2017		
8AM -2PM	No Breakfast	Hall
4:00PM	Religious Education Class	Church
Monday, December 25, 2017		
Tuesday, December 26, 2017		
9AM - 9:30AM	Our Lady of Wisdom Prayer Group	Church
7:45PM	English Choir Practice	Church
Wednesday, December 27, 2017		
9AM - 9:30AM	Mother of Perpetual Help Novena	Church
7:00PM	Bible Study	Ministry Center
Thursday, December 28, 2017		
8:00PM	Spanish Choir Practice	Church
Friday, December 29, 2017		
9AM - 1PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Church
Saturday, December 30, 2017		
6:00PM	No Confirmation Class	Church
Sunday, December 31, 2017		
8AM -2PM	No Breakfast	Hall
10:00AM	No Religious Education Class	School

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 23, 2017		
8:30 AM	Fr. Donovan	Parishioners of STM
5:00 PM	Fr. Andrew	Patrick Yiu† Carlos Garcia†
7:00 PM	Fr. Thai	Parishioners of STM
Sunday, December 24, 2017		
7:30 AM	Fr. Thai	Peter Sing Nguyen†
9:00 AM	Fr. Andrew	Eduvigis Gonzalez†
10:45 AM	Fr. Donovan	Rafael Garcia Jr.†
12:30 PM	Fr. Donovan	Rebecca T. Martinez†
4:00 PM	Fr. Thai	Manuel Pacheco†
10:00 PM	Fr. Thai	Samantha Page Blackwood†
Monday, December 25, 2017		
7:30 AM	Fr. Donovan	Roberto Soriano†
9:00 AM	Fr. Thai	Felix Perez: Birthday
10:45 AM	Fr. Thai	Parishioners of STM
12:30 PM	Fr. Andrew	Michael Toh†
Tuesday, December 26, 2017		
8:30 AM	Fr. Andrew	Christopher Pinkus† Isaiah Gutierrez†
Wednesday, December 27, 2017		
8:30 AM	Fr. Donovan	Eduvigis Gonzalez†
Thursday, December 28, 2017		
8:30 AM	Fr. Donovan	Rizal V. Lacson†
Friday, December 29, 2017		
8:30 AM	Fr. Donovan	Andrew and Lillian Johnson Family
Saturday, December 30, 2017		
8:30 AM	Fr. Donovan	Woody Chan: Healing Patrick Yiu† Missionary Sisters of St. Columban: Blessings
5:00 PM	Fr. Thai	
Sunday, December 31, 2017		
7:30 AM	Fr. Dan	Peter Sing Nguyen†
9:00 AM	Fr. Andrew	Mary Anne Odegard†
10:45 AM	TBA	Christina Koontz: Birthday
12:30 PM	Fr. Andrew	Andrew and Lillian Johnson Family

Please Pray for the Sick

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

Pray for the Dead

Anita Alderate	Francisco Luevano
Mercedes Bicad	Christine Magdaleno
Joseph Campanella	Mary Anne Odegard
Afonso Garcia	Dominico Fran Suu



Hello!

Merry Christmas!

I wish you and your family have a blessed and wonderful Christmas Season!

When you attend the Catholic Church during this time of year, you will likely see a manger, the Nativity scene or leaf hut in front of, or outside of, the Church. These are symbols for a shelter, a home, or any place that is the beginning of a family. Our faith and tradition teach us that over two thousand years ago, in Bethlehem, a child was born into the world by the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The Gospel reading on the Christmas Day describes how *Light* shines through the darkness, destroying sins and against God and others. Even though the world is filled with obscurity, chaos, and hatred; God still sent His Son to us – to live with us in a tangible way, not an abstract one. The birth of Baby Jesus is the light in the world's darkness. Those that do evil cannot separate God from humanity. Let us remind ourselves; the Baby Jesus, the Light sent by God, must shine through the darkness.

Is this an easy Christmas Season for us to allow His Light to shine upon us? Are there any dark places in our lives that might prevent us from celebrating the Christmas Light? For some, this Christmas will be a big celebration, fills with sounds of joy from friends and family. They will give thanks to God for His gift of eternal life and family. They will easily find peace and hope throughout the Christmas Season because they are in the light of God; they do not allow life's circumstances to control their joy, peace, or happiness. Christmas has arrived in their hearts and families!

On the other hand, some people may wonder why life is so difficult and filled with all kinds of suffering, pain, mistrust, or misunderstanding among family members and others. Some people may believe there are reasons not to celebrate the Birth of Jesus. Yet, they have not allowed themselves to see the Light.

The cause of all suffering and sadness of life has nothing to do with God's Light; it is because people today separate and distance themselves from God. They do not believe that God is the *source of life!* From the darkness of insecurity and suffering, they deny God's light and guidance refusing to allow His light to illuminate their daily lives. Distancing oneself from God can trigger loneliness, sadness, crises, worries, or affliction. For those wrestling with their inner peace—they long for the core of life in ways that they can't articulate. Finding true peace and joy during the Christmas Season is impossible if we turn away from God.

We get to choose to be in the light or in the dark. Life is so fragile that we can easily become discouraged by life's events. God sent the Light of Baby Jesus to illuminate our path. When faced with life's suffering and sadness; joyful individuals will let His light shine through.

Jesus, God's Light, came to Earth as a tiny child. Some people turn away from or diminish His Light. Others seek, share, and depend on His Light. We need to open our minds and hearts to accept Jesus; Son of God and Our Savior, born by the Blessed Virgin Mary to give us strength and courage to face the changing world.

On this Christmas Day as we gather together with family and community of faith, let us not forget God dwells in our hearts, families, and community. We welcome and make room for Him through our daily prayers and good deeds. His Light will cast out all the darkness of misunderstanding, worry, sadness, hatred, and illness that we are experiencing right now. Only then will Christmas have arrived in our hearts and homes!

God bless!

Fr. Thai

¡Hola!

¡Feliz Navidad!

¡Les deseo a usted y a su familia una bendita y maravillosa Temporada de Navidad!

Cuando asista a la Iglesia Católica durante esta época del año, probablemente verá un pesebre, la escena de la Natividad o la cabaña de hojas frente a la Iglesia. Estos son símbolos de un refugio, un hogar o cualquier lugar que sea el comienzo de una familia. Nuestra fe y tradición nos enseñan que hace más de dos mil años, en Belén, nació un niño en la Santísima Virgen María.

La lectura del Evangelio en el día de Navidad describe cómo la luz brilla a través de la oscuridad, destruye los pecados y contra Dios y los demás. Aunque el mundo está lleno de oscuridad, caos y odio; Dios todavía nos envió lo último para vivir con nosotros de una manera tangible, no abstracta. El nacimiento del Niño Jesús es la luz de la oscuridad del mundo. Los que hacen el mal no pueden separar a Dios de la humanidad. Recordemos a nosotros mismos; el Niño Jesús, la Luz enviada por Dios, debe brillar a través de la oscuridad.

¿Es esta una temporada navideña fácil para que permitamos que su luz brille sobre nosotros? ¿Hay algún lugar oscuro en nuestras vidas que nos impida celebrar la Luz de Navidad? Para algunos, esta Navidad será una gran celebración, se llena de sonidos de alegría de amigos y familiares. Darán gracias a Dios por su vida eterna y su familia. Podrán encontrar la paz y la esperanza a lo largo de la temporada de Navidad porque son la luz de Dios; No permiten que las circunstancias de la vida controlen su alegría, paz o felicidad. ¡La Navidad ha llegado a sus corazones y familias!

Por otro lado, algunas personas pueden preguntarse por qué la vida es tan difícil y está llena de todo tipo de sufrimiento, dolor, desconfianza o malentendidos entre los miembros de la familia y otros. Algunas personas pueden creer que hay razones para no celebrar el nacimiento de Jesús. Sin embargo, no se han permitido ver la Luz.

La causa de todo sufrimiento y tristeza de la vida no tiene nada que ver con la Luz de Dios; Es porque la gente de hoy se separa y se distancia de Dios. ¡No creen que Dios sea la fuente de la vida! Desde la oscuridad de la inseguridad y el sufrimiento, niegan la luz y la guía de Dios. Alejarse de Dios puede provocar soledad, tristeza, crisis, preocupaciones o aflicción. Para aquellos que luchan con su paz interior, anhelan el núcleo de la vida de maneras que no pueden articular. Encontrar verdadera paz y alegría durante la temporada de Navidad.

Llegamos a la luz o en la oscuridad. La vida es tan frágil que fácilmente podemos desanimarnos por los acontecimientos de la vida. Dios envió la Luz del Niño Jesús para iluminar nuestro camino. Cuando te enfrentas al sufrimiento y la tristeza de la vida; Las personas alegres dejarán que su luz brille a través de ellas.

Jesús, la Luz de Dios, vino a la Tierra como un niño pequeño. Algunas personas se alejan o disminuyen Su Luz. Otros buscan, comparten y dependen de su luz. Necesitamos abrir nuestras mentes y corazones para aceptar a Jesús; Hijo de Dios y nuestro Salvador, nacido por la Santísima Virgen María, para darnos fuerza y coraje para enfrentar el mundo cambiante.

En este día de Navidad nos reunimos con la familia y la comunidad de fe, no olvidemos que Dios habita en nuestros corazones, familias y comunidad. Damos la bienvenida y hacemos lugar a nuestras oraciones diarias y buenas obras. Su Luz expulsará toda la oscuridad de la incomprensión, la preocupación, la tristeza, el odio y la enfermedad que estamos experimentando en este momento. ¡Solo entonces vendrás a nuestros corazones y hogares!

Dios los bendiga!

P. Thai