

**PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**

*God our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, and consecrated persons.*

*Send your Holy Spirit to help others to respond generously and courageously to your call.*

*May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth and young adults.*

*Through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.*

*Amen*

*Pray for*  
**VOCATIONS**

**ORACIÓN POR LAS VOCACIONES**

*Dios Padre nuestro, te damos gracias por llamar a hombres y mujeres a servir en el Reino de tu Hijo como sacerdotes, diáconos y personas consagradas.*

*Envía tu Espíritu Santo para ayudar a otros a responder generosa y valientemente a tu llamado.*

*Que nuestra comunidad de fe apoye vocaciones de amor sacrificial en nuestros jóvenes y jóvenes adultos.*

*A través de nuestro Señor Jesucristo, que vive y reina contigo en la unidad del Espíritu Santo, un solo Dios, por los siglos de los siglos.*

*Amén*



**PARISH LENTEN CHALLENGE:**  
*40 Cans for Lent*

*Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor.*

-Proverbs 22:9

Catholic Charities Food Pantry is accepting your generous donation of canned goods... cereal, pasta and other non-perishable food items.

Donate one can of food for each day of Lent as a reminder of the penance we should be doing as we prepare for the passion of our Lord. Your donation feeds our neighbors throughout the year.

We have a collection bin in the back of the church.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!.. And... God Bless-

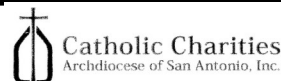


**YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE**

**February 25, 2024**

Sunday Collection .....	\$	5,515.70
Vigil Candles.....	\$	72.62
Facilities Improvement.....	\$	190.00
STM School.....	\$	770.62
Mass Intentions.....	\$	40.00
Holy Thursday.....	\$	18.00
Easter Flowers.....	\$	97.00
Ash Wed / 2d Coll - Cath Charities..	\$	173.00

*Second Collection Mar 9 - 10:  
to Support American Bishop's Overseas Appeal*



**40 DAYS OF SERVICE**


*February 15 - March 26, 2024*

*Join the volunteer movement that is transforming our community!*

**During 40 Days of Service, our community comes together to serve our most vulnerable with love, respect, and dignity.**

**Join the thousands of volunteers who have served our neighbors!**

 [cyahaira@ccaosa.org](mailto:cyahaira@ccaosa.org)

 (210) 222-1294

 Scan for information

 Scan for opportunities

**Gospel Meditation:**

I am the Lord your God ... You shall not have other gods beside me. —Ex 20:2-3

- One of the greatest golfers of all time — if not the greatest — was Jack Nicklaus. Which is why it is baffling that at the beginning of each season he would return to his childhood coach and re-learn how to grip the golf club. It's like Shakespeare re-learning the alphabet and grammar. Why would he do that? Because Jack knew that the fundamentals are always relevant. Perfecting and obsessing over his grip allowed him to do everything else in the game well.
- In sports and life, the best ones love the basics.

Similarly, as we begin Lent, we re-learn the spiritual basics in the Ten Commandments.

Consider the first, to "have no other gods besides me." This is our "grip." Is our connection to God one of absolute fidelity and exclusive worship? Am I willing to let go of my precious idols, the things I cling to instead of God?

- Once we say "yes" to this fundamental question of our spiritual "grip," then we are ready to properly engage with everything else in life. Watch how beautifully the game of life unfolds in the next nine commandments (numbered in parentheses): how we speak to God and others (2 and 8), how we organize our week (3), how we relate to our family (4) and the wider community (5 and 7), how we live our sexuality (6), and how we order all the other desires of the human heart (9 and 10). But don't rush to these later Commandments too soon! Everything in life is built on the first Commandment. The more we focus on worshiping God alone, the better we navigate the complexity of life with panache, effectiveness, and love.

- Lenten challenge: This week, identify what you can do to better worship God alone. If you're not sure, scan the last nine commandments to identify what you are most likely to worship instead of God. Power, pleasure, control of your time, possessions, family, health, reputation, money? Commit to concrete action to help you let go of this "idol" to better hold on to God alone in faithful worship. Remember: the best love the basics.

— Father John Muir

**Meditación del Evangelio:**

Yo soy el Señor tu Dios... No tendrás otros dioses fuera de mí. (Éxodo 20:2-3)

- Uno de los mejores golfistas de todos los tiempos, si no el mejor, fue Jack Nicklaus. Es por eso que es desconcertante que al comienzo de cada temporada regresara con su entrenador de la infancia y volviera a aprender a agarrar el palo de golf. Es como si Shakespeare volviera a aprender el alfabeto y la gramática. ¿Por qué haría eso? Porque Jack sabía que los fundamentos siempre son relevantes. Perfeccionar y obsesionarse con su agarre le permitió hacer bien todo lo demás en el juego. En los deportes y en la vida, a los mejores les encanta lo básico.

Del mismo modo, al comenzar la Cuaresma, volvemos a aprender los fundamentos espirituales de los Diez Mandamientos. Consideremos la primera, "no tener otros dioses fuera de mí". Este es nuestro "agarre".

- ¿Es nuestra conexión con Dios una de fidelidad absoluta y adoración exclusiva? ¿Estoy dispuesto a dejar ir mis preciosos ídolos, las cosas a las que me aferro en lugar de a Dios? Una vez que decimos "sí" a esta pregunta fundamental de nuestro "agarre" espiritual, entonces estamos listos para comprometernos adecuadamente con todo lo demás en la vida. Observa cuán bellamente se desarrolla el juego de la vida en los siguientes nueve mandamientos (numerados entre paréntesis): cómo hablamos con Dios y con los demás (2 y 8), cómo organizamos nuestra semana (3), cómo nos relacionamos con nuestra familia (4) y la comunidad en general (5 y 7), cómo vivimos nuestra sexualidad (6) y cómo ordenamos todos los demás deseos del corazón humano (9 y 10). ¡Pero no te apresures a estos últimos mandamientos demasiado pronto! Todo en la vida se basa en el primer mandamiento. Cuanto más nos enfocamos en adorar solo a Dios, mejor navegamos por la complejidad de la vida con garbo, efectividad y amor.
- Desafío de la Cuaresma: Esta semana, identifique lo que puede hacer para adorar mejor solo a Dios. Si no estás seguro, examina los últimos nueve mandamientos para identificar lo que es más probable que adores en lugar de a Dios.
- ¿El poder, el placer, el control de tu tiempo, tus posesiones, tu familia, tu salud, tu reputación, tu dinero?
- Comprométete a tomar medidas concretas que te ayuden a dejar ir este "ídolo" para aferrarte mejor solo a Dios en la adoración fiel. Recuerda: los mejores aman lo básico.

— Father John Muir





Lent is a time of Fasting, Spiritual Discipline and Repentance!  
It's a time to reflect on the Passion and Resurrection of Our Lord!  
A time to prepare for Easter!

But, Contrary to popular / modern-day belief... there are no drive-through confessionals!  
You **CAN NOT** receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation via the internet or on your cell phone!

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is an 'up close and personal' sacrament.

John the Baptist called people to 'repent!'... to 're-think' their way of life.

We all sin... some more than others... and we are all called to repent / re-think our lives and get back on the straight path to God.

I think part of our problem today is that we've heard the message so many times, we go into an *auto-response* mode. The proverbial 'in one ear and out the other' scenario. We listen... but we don't really hear or take notice. We can't let ourselves get lazy. There's too much at stake. We've all lost someone we love...

On a personal note, I lost my best friend - growing up - a while back... I hope he was ready to meet our Lord... I pray he had a chance to go to confession and / or receive the Sacrament of Anointing.

Over time, I've had a change of heart regarding my thoughts on dying... I used to think those who died a quick / painless death were the lucky ones. But I've come to realize that the lucky ones are really those who have been ill for some time... They know what's happening and have time to 'prepare.' Paul (*my friend*) was the picture of health... he died from a sudden heart attack while sitting in a chair in his living room on a Saturday afternoon... please pray for the repose of his soul... We can't take life for granted.

There are no guarantees that we'll be here next year... next month... next week... tomorrow... or even long enough to finish reading this week's bulletin! ***We have to be ready!***

In that light, we will be having a **Parish Penance Service** on Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, beginning with an Examination of Conscience at 6:30 pm followed by Individual Confessions.

I know there are *many... many...* good and holy people in our parish but... are we ***that*** holy?  
Can we afford to take that chance? We are called to *Make Straight the Way of the Lord...*

I invite you to take this opportunity to 'clean-the-slate'... so to speak.

When we go to confession... We become more like the person God has called us to be.

Let's each do our part... Let's pack the church that evening!

Hope to see you there... God Bless- DT



### **GUADALUPANOS' LENTEN RETREAT**

#### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!**

Join us for this inspiring event! (*Free Admission*)

**Saturday, March 16, 2024**

**8 am to 12 pm**

We will begin with Mass at 8 am followed by the Retreat in Carolan Hall

Our Guest Speaker this year is: Father Mike English

Contact: Belinda Trevino (210) 275-6529

**All are Welcome!**



### **HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE - St. Thomas More**

#### **March 23 - 24, Palm Sunday:**

Regular Weekend / Sunday Schedule

#### **March 25 - 27, Mon-Wed:**

Regular Daily Masses (8 am)

#### **March 28, Holy Thursday:**

7 pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper (*no morning Mass*)

Eucharistic Adoration (*begins after Mass thru midnight*)

#### **March 29, Good Friday:**

12 pm - Live Way of the Cross /  
el Via Crucis en Vivo

3 pm - Passion Liturgy (*English*)

7 pm - Passion Liturgy (*Español*)

5:30 pm - Divine Mercy Novena Begins

#### **March 30 - 31, Easter:**

Holy Saturday - 8 pm / Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday - Regular Sunday Schedule

**This Week at Our Parish**

**Sunday, March 3, 2024**  
10:00 am KC Mass - *Church*

**Monday, March 4, 2024**  
5:30 pm Guadalupanos Board Mtg - Rectory Mtg Room

**Tuesday, March 5, 2024**  
5:30 pm Divine Mercy - *Rectory Mtg Room*  
6:30 pm Coro Alegria Choir Practice - *Rectory Mtg Room*  
7:00 pm Guadalupanos Retreat Planning Mtg - *Rectory Dining Room*  
Grupo de Oracion Choir Practice - *Church*

**Wednesday, March 6, 2024**  
6:00 pm KC3 Degree Officer's Mtg - *Carolan Hall*  
6:30 pm 40 Days of Lent - *Church*

**Thursday, March 7, 2024**  
6:00 pm Holy Hour - *Church*  
7:00 pm RCIA - *Rectory Mtg Room*  
Grupo de Oracion (*Via Crucis practice*) - *Parking Lot*

**Friday, March 8, 2024**  
9:00 am Friday Adoration - *Church*  
6:00 pm Stations of the Cross - *Church*  
7:00 pm KC Breakfast Prep - *Carolan Hall*  
Grupo de Oracion (*Via Crucis*) - *Church*

**Saturday, March 9, 2024**  
10:00 am VBS Planning Mtg - *Carolan Hall*

**Sunday, March 10, 2024**  
8:00 am KC Breakfast - *Carolan Hall*

**Mass Intentions**

**Saturday, March 2, 2024**  
8:00 am *All Homebound Parishioners*  
5:00 pm †Christina C. Dominguez by Dominguez Family  
*Thanksgiving - Olga Weich*

**Sunday, March 3, 2024**  
8:00 am †Helen Manning by Hortencia Morales  
*STM Parishioners - Living & Deceased*  
10:00 am †Medardo E. Morales & Evangelina G. Morales by Morales / Briseno Family Families  
by Oswald Family  
†Carl & Amy Oswald by Oswald Family  
†Kathryn Marie Sweet by Maria T. Sweet

**Monday, March 4, 2024**  
8:00 am †Baldemar Saldiva & Agustin Mora by Rosa Saldiva  
*Healing & Fast Recovery - Kevin Lopez* by Kevin Lopez, Jr

**Tuesday, March 5, 2024**  
8:00 am †Anthony Sanchez by Alfredo & Irma Sanchez  
†Paul Nguyen by Thuy Nguyen

**Wednesday, March 6, 2024**  
8:00 am †Rafael Garza by Theresa Garza

**Thursday, March 7, 2024**  
8:00 am *Spec Intention - Conversion & Spirituality* - Lisania Alcala  
*All Ordained Clergy and Religious*

**Friday, March 8, 2024**  
8:00 am †Samuel Orozco Perez by Pereida-Orozco Family  
†Angie Zavala by Ramirez Family

**Saturday, March 9, 2024**  
8:00 am *Special Intention - Jorge Mora* by Rosa Saldiva  
*STM Parishioners - Living & Deceased*  
5:00 pm †Gilbert Cantu Jr & Violeta Cantu by Juanita Cantu  
†Alfredo Sanchez by 4Degree KC - Assembly 2748

**Sunday, March 10, 2024**  
8:00 am †Alfredo G. Sanchez by Abraham Gonzales Family  
10:00 am †Juan and Mike Urbano by Urbano Family  
†Salome H. Briseno & Carolina B Briseno by Morales / Briseno Family Families  
12:00 pm *Special Int - Catholic Girl Scouts* by Catholic Committee  
*Special Int - Reyes-Garcia Family* by Rosa Maria Reyes  
*Birthday - Manuel Arvizu, Jr*



**Sanctuary Light Intention:**  
*Rafael Garza*

**Lecturas de la Semana del 4 - 10 marzo**

**Lunes:** 2Re 5:1-15; Sal 41:2,3; 43:3,4; Lc 4:24-30

**Martes:** Dn 3:25,34-43; Sal 24:4-9; Mt 18:21-35

**Miércoles:** Dt 4:1,5-9; Sal 146:12-13,15-16,19-20;  
Mt 5:17-19

**Jueves:** Jr 7:23-28; Sal 94:1-2,6-9; Lc 11:14-23

**Viernes:** Os 14:2-10; Sal 80:6-8,8-11,14,17;  
Mc 12:28-34

**Sábado:** Os 6:1-6; Sal 50:3-4,18-21; Lc 18:9-14

**Domingo:** 2Chr 36:14-16,19-23; Sal 136:1-6;  
Ef 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21

**Readings for the week of 4 - 10 Mar**

**Monday:** 2Kgs 5:1-15ab; Ps 42:2,3; 43:3,4;  
Lk 4:24-30

**Tuesday:** Dn 3:25,34-43; Ps 25:4-9; Mt 18:21-35

**Wednesday:** Dt 4:1,5-9; Ps 147:12-13,15-16,19-20;  
Mt 5:17-19

**Thursday:** Jer 7:23-28; Ps 95:1-2,6-9; Lk 11:14-23

**Friday:** Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6c-11ab,14,17;  
Mk 12:28-34

**Saturday:** Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51:3-4,18-21; Lk 18:9-14

**Sunday:** 2Chr 36:14-16,19-23; Ps 137:1-6;  
Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21



St. Thomas More  
Council #7386

***Fish Fry***

Friday, March 22, 2024  
5 - 8 pm  
Cost: \$10



**Plate Includes:** 1 Pc Fish, Hush Puppies,  
Coleslaw, Corn & Bread

**Liturgical Roles**

**Saturday, March 9, 2024**

5 pm Altar Servers - L.McCaffery, A.McCaffery  
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Tim, S.Chapa, M.Fisher, T.Garza, K.Ball  
Lector - R.Alvarado

**Sunday, March 10, 2024**

8 am Altar Servers - (None)  
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Rolando, P.Klar, M.Nguyen, E.Garcia,  
S.Trimm  
Lector - S.Castaneda

10 am Altar Servers - M.Pereida, A.Hartsfield, C.Hartsfield  
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Tim, J+And.Perez, Ali.Perez, M.Briseno,  
H.Rodriguez, N.Rodriguez  
Lector - Abi.Perez

12 pm Altar Servers - S.Obregon, A.Gomez, Volunteer  
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Rolando, C.Hernandez, R.Borrego,  
A.Chavez, H.Gomez, R.Gomez, I.Hernandez  
Lector - L.Lopez / N.Obregon