December 28, 2025



Welcome to St. Thomas More Catholic Church

Thank you for celebrating with us today! We warmly welcome you to our humble place of worship, where we hope you will have a loving experience of God.

Our Lord Jesus comes to us in word and sacrament as we celebrate his life, death, and resurrection at Holy Mass.

If this is your first time visiting, we hope you find a new spiritual home away from home!

Founded in 1964, our parish has a long tradition of proclaiming and living the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Sustainable only by your contributions, your generosity is sincerely appreciated.

Once again, we welcome you, and thank you for celebrating with us.

Mass Schedule

8:00 a.m.
8:00 a.m.
8:00 a.m.
5:00 p.m.
8:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
12:00 p.m

(Español)

"The parish does not ask for favors either by email or text to parishioners asking to purchase gift cards of any sort."

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Coordinator *Alicia Perez,* Alli Fuentes, Cesar Paez, Sylvia Garcia, Noe Carrizales, & Ruben Alvarado

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

David Allen - Coordinator RoseMarie Evancho, Michele Allen , Rita Davis & Charles Lange

St. Thomas More Catholic School

Our school offers excellent Academic opportunities for children beginning at 18 months up to 8th grade. Tuition assistance programs are available for families that qualify. For more information please call 210-655-2882 or

visit our website: www.St-Thomas-More-School.org
HOME OF THE KNIGHTS

Holy Sacraments

Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. or by Appointment

Baptism

Parents and God-Parents must attend class prior to the Baptism. <u>Celebrated on:</u>

The 4th Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m. (Spanish) The 4th Saturday of the month at 5:00 p.m. (English)

Marriage & Quinceañera's

Contact the Pastor at least 9 months prior to desired ceremony date.

Anointing of the Sick

Those facing hospitalization, surgery or have a significant illness and desire physical & spiritual healing are asked to call the office to schedule an anointing.

Eucharistic Adoration

Friday Adoration after Mass until 5:00 p.m. Monthly English Holy Hour is the 1st Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. La Hora Santa Mensual es el primer Viernes del mes a las 7:00 p.m.

Religious Education Office

We offer Religious Education (including Sacramental Preparation) in English & Spanish for children in grades 1 through 12.

Please call the Rectory for more information.

PARISH OFFICE STAFF

PASTOR - Rev. Ed Gonzales FrGonzales.STMC@GMAIL.COM Parochial Vicar - Rev. Man Nguyen Pastoral Associate Deacon (RET) Timothy M. Tate, Sr. EXT. 106 Deacon - Rolando Guerra Deacon - Dennis Caballero Administrative Assistant - Monica Aguirre. EXT. 100

Administrative Assistant – Monica Aguirre...... EXT. 100 Bookkeeper – Rhonda Villalobos

Director of Religious Education / Sacramental Records Martha Guerra...... EXT 101

Facilities Manager – Jose Luis Hernandez

St. Thomas More Catholic Church 4411 Moana Drive San Antonio, Texas 78218

San Antonio, Texas 78218

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

CLOSED FOR LUNCH 12 - 1 p.m.

1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

CONTACT US 210.655.5070 (Office) EMAIL:

STMParish@Live.Com WEBSITE: ThomasMoreSATX.Org

Gospel Meditation:

When I was ten, my dad gathered our family around the table in small-town Vermont and told us we were moving to the big desert city of Phoenix, Arizona. We were leaving behind family, friends, and everything familiar. None of us knew what to expect.

But something beautiful happened. As we made the move together, our family grew closer. In retrospect, I'm amazed at my parents' courage to go on that adventure. Even as a kid I realized our family found, in that challenge, a deeper unity and mutual love.

In today's Gospel, Joseph is told: "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee..." (Matthew 2:13, 20). First to Egypt, then later to Israel. The Holy Family is frequently challenged to move and change, to adapt to God's will for them, in order to find safety in the midst of threat. It's not just an idiosyncratic story about survival. It's a spiritual pattern for all of us. Every Christian family is called to be a kind of sanctuary, especially in a world full of noise, busyness, and fear.

May I make a practical application for us? The Lord's Day, Sunday, is perhaps the most practical way we imitate this dynamic we see in Joseph and his family. Sunday is not meant to be just like every other day, filled with errands and stress. It's meant to be a day set apart; a holy "escape" into rest, worship, joy, and peace. A day to rise, take your family, and flee, into God's presence.

— Father John Muir

Meditación del Evangelio:

Cuando tenía diez años, mi padre reunió a nuestra familia alrededor de la mesa en un pequeño pueblo de Vermont y nos dijo que nos mudábamos a la gran ciudad desértica de Phoenix, Arizona. Dejábamos atrás a la familia, los amigos y todo lo que era familiar. Ninguno de nosotros sabía qué esperar.

Pero ocurrió algo hermoso. A medida que nos mudábamos juntos, nuestra familia se fue uniendo más. En retrospectiva, me sorprende el valor de mis padres para embarcarse en esa aventura. Incluso de niño me di cuenta de que en ese reto nuestra familia encontraba una unidad más profunda y un amor mutuo.

En el Evangelio de hoy, a José se le dice: "Levántate, toma al niño y a su madre, y huye..." (Mateo 2:13, 20). Primero a Egipto, luego a Israel. La Sagrada Familia se ve frecuentemente desafiada a moverse y cambiar, a adaptarse a la voluntad de Dios para ellos, para encontrar seguridad en medio de la amenaza. No es solo una historia idiosincrática sobre la supervivencia. Es un patrón espiritual para todos nosotros. Cada familia cristiana está llamada a ser una especie de santuario, especialmente en un mundo lleno de ruido, ajetreo y miedo.

¿Puedo hacer una aplicación práctica para nosotros? El Día del Señor, el domingo, es quizás la forma más práctica de imitar esta dinámica que vemos en José y su familia. El domingo no está pensado para ser como todos los demás días, lleno de recados y estrés. Se supone que es un día aparte; una "escapada" sagrada hacia el descanso, la adoración, la alegría y la paz. Un día para levantarse, tomar a tu familia y huir, en presencia de Dios.

— Padre John Muir

YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

December 21, 2025

Sunday Collection	\$ 11,286.31
Vigil Candles	\$ 350.21
Mass Intentions	80.00
Truck Raffle	\$ 6,800.00
Christmas Offering	\$ 420.00
Flowers Offering	\$ 110.00

Second Collection: Jan 3 - 4 Facilities Improvement Fund

Truck Raffle Update: 440 Tickets Sold to Date \$44,000 - collected

Online Giving:





A NEW-YEAR's WISH:

During this most holy time of the year, my prayer is that the Christ Child and His Mother, Mary Most Holy,

continue to bless our parish and each of you through the coming year.

May 2026 be a year where we all walk in God's way!

On behalf of myself, Fr. Man, our Deacons, Parish Staff, School Faculty and Staff, and all our various Organizations and Ministries...

Happy New Year!... and God Bless...

Know that you are all in my prayers.

Fr. Ed



Question: With January 1st, where we celebrate Mary, the Mother of God, coming up in a few days...

Some people ask: If God is eternal and infinite, how can He have a mother? Why do we call Mary the *Mother of God...* and not just the *mother of Jesus?*

Answer: The title of "Mary, Mother of God" can be confusing.

We aren't implying that Mary existed from eternity or that she is divine herself.

We aren't promoting some kind of Marian superpowers.

The Church has fought for this title throughout the centuries for one simple reason:

Christ's identity is at stake.

As the Church grew in the early centuries, theologians wrestled with what it meant for Jesus to be both God and man. Many distortions of his identity began to emerge. One of these was propagated by a man named Nestorius.

Nestorius and his followers denied that Jesus' human nature and his divine nature were inseparable.

Following that logic, Mary could have only conceived Jesus' human nature. But people don't give birth to a "nature." They give birth to a whole person. For Jesus, his whole person is both human and divine.

In 431 A.D. the Council of Ephesus denounced Nestorius.

The bishops affirmed that Jesus is both fully human and fully divine and proclaimed Mary Theotokos.

Translating the Greek to English, Theotokos means "God-bearer."

Note that this isn't "God-generator" or "God-creator."

Mary bore Jesus, God and man, in her womb and gave him birth.

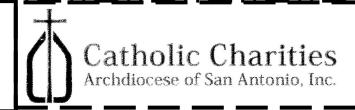
She is mother to the whole person, the whole Jesus, and therefore Mother of God.

CATHOLIC RADIO

'Tune-In' to the Guadalupe Radio Network!

1380 AM – Spanish or

89.7 FM - English





Christmas 2025 Appeal



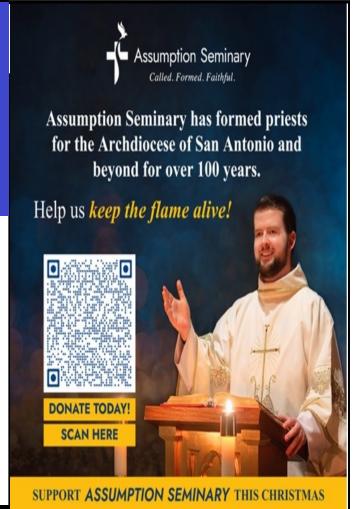
Assumption Seminary,

the seminary of the Archdiocese of San Antonio, is pleased to keep the flame alive for over 100 years as we form priests for the archdiocese and beyond.

Led by Rector, Bishop Gary Janak, and your generous support, our seminarians can grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ, develop their intellect as full time students in philosophy and theology, engage in profound pastoral ministry experiences, and grow as wholesome, joyful men of God.

Your financial gift to the Christmas Day 2nd Collection, in person or online, is critical to the formation of your future pastors, spiritual directors, confessors and pastoral leaders.

Thank you for your generosity





HAPPY NEW YEAR!! If you're anything like me you've probably got the best of intentions but you just don't quite get around to everything you'd like to. Sound familiar?

Seems many people live by the motto 'Never do today what can be put off until tomorrow.'

That philosophy -procrastination- may seem pretty cool until you realize our 'tomorrows' are not unlimited! We have to begin somewhere... so...

why not make this coming year, 2026, the year where it all begins!

Some things may seem small and inconsequential... like: "Yes, dear, I'll rake the leaves... well... maybe next week" –or- "I'll nail that loose fence board... one of these days" -or- "I'll wash the car... well, maybe tomorrow... looks like rain."

These things may seem trivial and they probably are... but they're good practice for the bigger 'stuff.'

Force yourself to get up and do them... and do them with a smile! Anything / Everything you do can be a prayer!.. Just as long as you do them with the proper intent and disposition of heart.

Practice on the little things... Then the more important items like: "I really need to get to Confession," -or- "Maybe I should attend the Holy Hour this month," -or- "I'll bet I could help out with our Religious-Ed program... I could share my faith with the youth of our parish..." will come easier.

You can continue this list with things you've been hedging on. Stop procrastinating on the little things and you'll find the practice will carry over to the more important ones as well.

May 2026 be the year we give up our procrastinating ways and really begin doing the things we plan to do.

Once again... Happy New Year and God Bless - d

Epiphany Trivia

Next weekend (January 4^{th}) we celebrate the **Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord**.

An interesting side-note on the Magi and when that first Epiphany occurred...

That first Epiphany (or first Christmas if you look at them bringing Jesus presents) actually coursed on December 25th in the year 2 B.C. when Jesus was a toddler of about 2 years of age.

Questions? Where did I come up with that date? *Buy* me a free cup of coffee at the next KC Breakfast... and we can talk about it...

There is a special House Blessing associated with the Feast of the Epiphany. Traditionally, a home is blessed by the Head of the Household on the feast day... but the blessing may be performed at other times as well.

Holy Hour

Our Monthly Holy Hour(s) are normally scheduled on the first Thursday and Friday of each month.

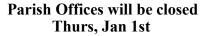
But, since they fall on Jan 1st and 2nd this year we will '*push*' them back to the next week.

English Holy Hour: Jan 8th at 6 pm Spanish Holy Hour: Jan 9th at 7 pm

Come... Spend some quiet 'one-on-one' time with Our Lord...

present in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Hope to see you there.



Our Liturgical Schedule for

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Wed, Dec 31: 6 pm

Thurs, Jan 1: 10 am

Noon - Spanish

St. Thomas More Catholic Church & School Truck Raffle

2025 Ford Ranger XLT Valued at \$32,453. Tickets are \$100 / each

If you would like to purchase a ticket, call (210) 655-5070 or Stop by the Rectory.

Tickets will also be available after all Masses.

Drawing will be held: Saturday, February 21, 2026 Prize must be claimed by 5 pm, Friday, February 27, 2026 or Winner forfeits prize and a new winner will be drawn.

Purchase of ticket IS <u>NOT</u> Tax Deductible. All proceeds benefit St. Thomas More Catholic Church



Ticket Sold to Date: 440 - \$44,000

This Week at Our Parish

*** Truck Raffle Ticket Sale - after all Masses This Weekend ***

Sunday, December 28, 2025 CDA Mass - Church 10:00 am Monday, December 29, 2025 Tuesday, December 30, 2025

5:30 pm Divine Mercy - Rectory Mtg Room-1

7:00 pm Coro Alegria Choir Practice - Rectory Mtg Room-1

Wednesday, December 31, 2025 - New Year's Eve

*** Parish Offices Closed Thurs - HDO ***

Thursday, January 1, 2026 - Mary, Mother of God / New Year All Activities/ Meetings - Cancelled

Holy Hour Moved to Thursday, January 8th

Friday, January 2, 2026

la Hora Santa Moved to Friday, January 9th

* Truck Raffle Ticket Sale - after all Masses This Weekend ***

Saturday, January 3, 2026 January 4, 2026 Sunday, 10:00 am KoC Mass - Church



Sanctuary Light Intention: †Abigail Rovayo

(12/27 - 1/27)

DOESN'T

YOU JUST





Lecturas de la Semana del 29 dec - 4 enero

1Jn 2:3-11; Sal 95:1-6; Lc 2:22-35 Lunes: 1Jn 2:12-17; Sal 95:7-10; Lc 2:36-40 Martes:

Miércoles: 1Jn 2:18-21; Sal 95:1-2,11-13;

Jn 1:1-18

Jueves: Nm 6:22-27; Sal 66:2-3,5,6,8;

Gal 4:4-7; Lc 2:16-21

1Jn 2:22-28; Sal 97:1-4; Jn 1:19-28 Viernes: 1Jn 2:29-3:6; Sal 97:1,3-6; Jn 1:29-34 Sábado:

Domingo: Is 60:1-6; Sal 71:1-2,7-8,10-13; Ef 3:2-3.5-6; Mt 2:1-1

Readings for the week of Dec 29 - Jan 4

Mon: 1Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3,5-6; Lk 2:22-35 Tues: 1Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40 1Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2,11-13; Jn 1:1-18 Wed: **Thurs**: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3,5,6,8; Gal 4:4-7;

Lk 2:16-21

Fri: 1Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28 Sat: 1Jn 2:29-3:6; Ps 98:1,3-6; Jn 1:29-34

Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2,7-8,10-13; Sun:

Eph 3:2-3,5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 27, 2025 - St. John, Apostle and Evangelist 5:00 pm **†Carmen Yanez** by Family

†San Juana E. Reyes by Family

by Richard Perez Family †Martha Brinkmann †Ruben Sr & Beatrice Rodriguez by Family

Sunday, December 28, 2025 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

8:00 am †Marguerite McCoy

10:00 am STM Parishioners - Living and Deceased

by Talley Family 12:00 pm †Marcellino Llanas †Jose Alcantar & Jesse Alcantar by Family †Deyanira Tello by Hermanas Tello

Monday, **December 29, 2024** - St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr 8:00 am In Celebration of Mary Johnson's Birthday by Husband

Tuesday, **December 30, 2024**

8:00 am †Lydia Gonzales by Negrete Family

Wednesday, December 31, 2025 - St. Sylvester I, Pope 8:00 am †Edward Ramirez by Family 6:00 pm STM Parishioners - Living and Deceased

Thursday, January 1, 2026 - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

10:00 am Van Bui Family & Children Health 12:00 pm STM Parishioners - Living and Deceased

Friday, January 2, 2026 - Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & DoC

8:00 am In Celebration of Andrew Saldiva's Birthday by Mom

Saturday, January 3, 2026 - the Most Holy Name of Jesus 8:00 am †Al Weinheimer by Wife

5:00 pm †Christina C. Dominguez & Jose Luis Maldonado, Jr by Family

Sunday, January 4, 2026 - The Epiphany of the Lord 8:00 am STM Parishioners - Living and Deceased 10:00 am

by Jackson & Catherine Hall tJoseph Davis

†Medardo E. & Evangelina G. Morales by Family

by Jesse Perez Family †Roger & Yolanda Faz †Connie O. Ramirez by Family by Rosa Saldiva †Baldemar Saldiva

12:00 pm †Marcellino Llanas by Talley Family





We Do TEHW she wants/

DReam

ismoon webs. OHOSE

Liturgical Roles

Saturday, January 3, 2026 5:00 pm Celebrant - Fr. Man

Altar Servers - Volunteers

Eucharistic Ministers- Dcn Rolando, J+B.Hernandez, E.Guerrero, T.Garza

Lector - T.Garza

Sunday, January 4, 2026 8 am Celebrant - Fr. Man

Altar Servers - Max.Planchon

Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Tim, M.Nguyen, E.Nunez, M.Aguirre, Y.Cione

Lector - O.Weich

10 am Celebrant - Fr. Man

Altar Servers - J. Villalobos, B. Pereida, A. Mata

Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Tim, KC's

Lector - KC's

12 pm Celebrant - Fr. Man

Altar Servers - S.Obregon, A.Gomez, M.Gonzalez Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Rolando, C.Hernandez, F.Hernandez, I.Hernandez, D.Llanas, R.Gomez, H.Gomez

Lector - E.Obregon / M.Rivera



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

ST. THOMAS MORE Knights of Columbus Council # 7386 meets 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. For more information call David A Bernal 210-669-5899.

Catholic Daughters of America #2683



Monthly Meeting: 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m Contact Regent Belinda Treviño at 210-275-6529

In Memory of The Leo Oswald & The Fred Lansing **Families**





IN LOVING MEMORY OF REX A. BRIEN & MR. & MRS. HILDO CASTELLÓN



M&S Air Conditioning LLC

Licensed & Insured

Heating and Cooling Services Heat & A/C Repairs

System Instalation Mini Split System Preventive Maintenance DAVID MALACARA

(210)300-1769 Se habla Español MSAIRSERVICE2@GMAIL.COM











- SALUD OBAMACARE MEDICARE
- ° VIDA GASTO FINAL AHORRO IUL ° ACCIDENTE - HOSPITALARIA
- ENFERMEDAD GRAVE
- ° DENTAL+VISIÓN+AUDICIÓN

8940 FOURWINDS DR STE. 307, WINDCREST, TX 78239 CONTACT@VIRTUALCONSULTINGUS.COM 210-376-7009



In Loving Memory Of Florencio Baiza, Louise Baiza Garza. Robert Garza Ruben Sr.& Beatrice Rodriguez





Allied Women's Center **SAVING BABIES SINCE1994** 210-224-707



HURTING AFTER AN ABORTION? hopeafterabortion.com 210-342-4673

cccounseling@ccaosa.ORG

PROJECT RACHEL **Peace Starts Here**



In Memory Jose (Joe) Galvan, Joseph (Joe) Galvan **Billy Sheridan** on behalf of The Family

St. Thomas More Guadalupanos Society

Invites all men & women to our group. **Our Monthly Meeting & Fellowship Meets** the 3rd Sunday of the month, after the 8:00 a.m. Mass. For more information call Esther Nunez at 210.288.7579

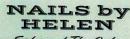
Archdiocese of San Antonio Procedures for Reporting Abuse If you or someone you know has been a victim of sexual abuse by a priest, deacon, or other church personnel and you wish to file a complaint: **Contact the Office of Victim Assistance & Safe Environment at** (210) 734-7786 OR (877) 700-1888 or email: ovase@archsa.org.

You have the right to contact law enforcement or CPS at any time. All calls or emails will be responded to within 48 hours.





In Loving Memory Santiago G. Garcia Sr. L Martha C. Garcia on behalf of The Garcia Family



Salons at The Oaks

Mon-Sat: 9:30-6pm (832) 466-9818

2914 Old Thousand Oaks Suite 108, San Antonio, TX, 78247



In Memory of Jose Luis Maldonado Jr. " Sweet Lou" on behalf of

The Maldonado Family & The Dominguez Family



